



Shojo Beat Manga

love★com



Story & Art by

Aya Nakahara

8



Shojo Beat

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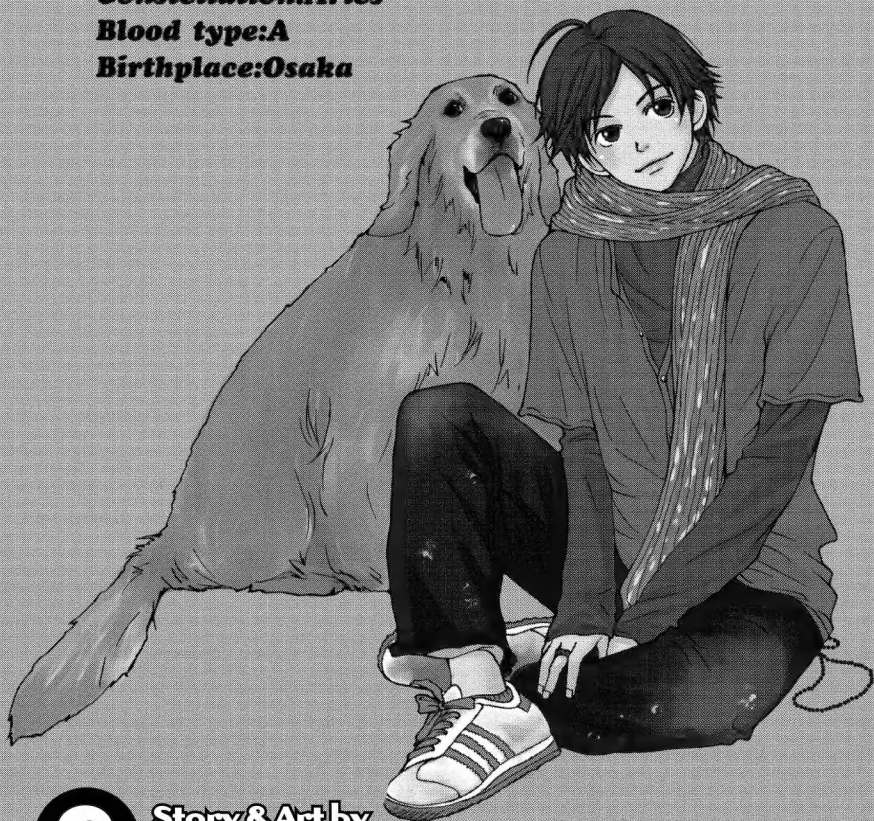
The Story So Far. . .

Risa and Ôtani are their class's lopsided comedy duo...except that Risa's fallen in love with Ôtani! She finally works up the courage to tell him how she feels, only to be totally rejected. Even so, she keeps trying to change his mind, and it looks like her efforts have paid off: he kisses her!! Or did he? Because the next day, he doesn't remember a thing about it...This is too much for Risa, and she decides she's through with him. She starts a fan club for dreamy new teacher Mr. Maitake (a.k.a. Mighty) and throws herself into some serious fandom...and Ôtani gets awfully grumpy. And when Risa reminds him that she's decided to quit being in love with him, he tells her not to! And then, on her birthday, he gets her a present and kisses her for real. So it looks like things're finally working out for Risa, except...

♥ To really get all the details, check out Lovely Complex Vol. 1-7, available at bookstores everywhere!!

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Lovely★Complex
ATSUSHI ŌTANI
Birthday: March 25
Constellation: Aries
Blood type: A
Birthplace: Osaka



8 Story & Art by
Aya Nakahara





...ÔTANI
SAID,
"YEAH."

WHEN I
ASKED
HIM IF HE
LOVES
ME TOO...

HE
DOES!
HE
LOVES
ME!

CHAPTER 29



STARTING
TODAY...

AND NOW,
FOR THE
FIRST TIME
IN MY LIFE,
I'M GOING
OUT WITH
SOMEONE.

I PUT
A LOT
OF HARD
WORK
INTO IT,
I REALLY
DID.

IT
SURE
WAS A
LONG
AND
ROCKY
ROAD.

...I
FINALLY
GET TO
HAVE A
LOVE
LIFE!

WHAT
ARE
YOU, A
MORON
?!



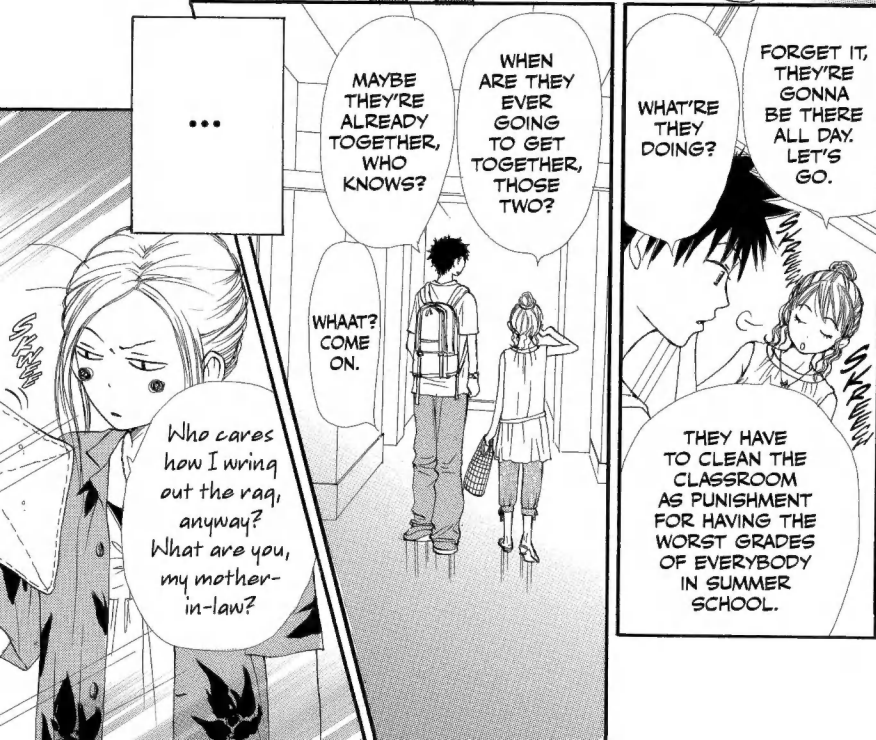


YOU WRING
IT OUT
OVER THE
BUCKET,
STUPID!
YOU'RE
GETTING
WATER ALL
OVER THE
PLACE!!

YOU DON'T
EVEN KNOW
HOW TO
WRING OUT
A RAG?
YOU DIP!

...
SO WHAT'S
THE BIG
DEAL?
I'LL JUST
WIPE IT UP
LATER!!

WHAT'RE
YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?
I'M
WRINGING
IT OUT!!



...
MAYBE
THEY'RE
ALREADY
TOGETHER,
WHO
KNOWS?

WHEN
ARE THEY
EVER
GOING
TO GET
TOGETHER,
THOSE
TWO?

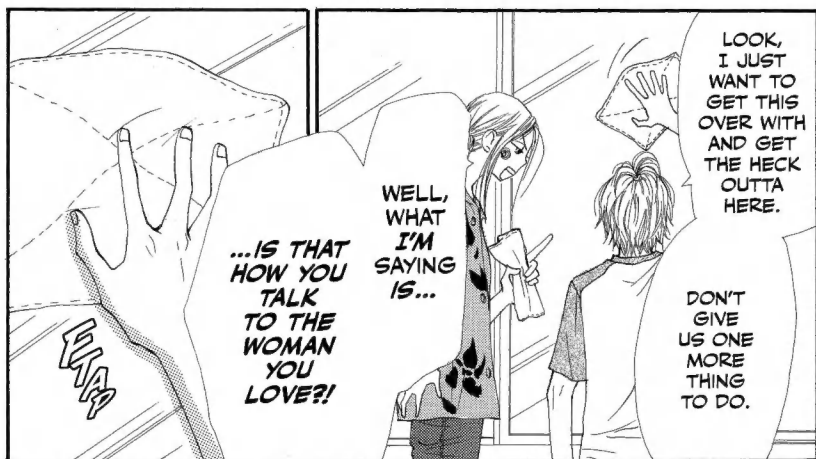
WHAT'RE
THEY
DOING?

FORGET IT,
THEY'RE
GONNA
BE THERE
ALL DAY.
LET'S
GO.

WHAT?
COME
ON.

Who cares
how I wring
out the rag,
anyway?
What are you,
my mother-
in-law?

THEY HAVE
TO CLEAN THE
CLASSROOM
AS PUNISHMENT
FOR HAVING THE
WORST GRADES
OF EVERYBODY
IN SUMMER
SCHOOL.



**YOU
ARE
THE
TOTAL
PITS!!**

DWOO
HOO
HOO
HOOO.

YOU
LOVE
ME
TOO,
DON'T
YOU?

YEAH.



WELL, WHAT
ABOUT YOU,
MAKING A BIG
DEAL ABOUT
WHO YOU KISS
AND WHO YOU
DON'T KISS?!

YOU
THINK
I GO A
ROUND

DOING
STUFF
LIKE

**DIRECT
HIT**

**DIRECT
HIT**

HEY!

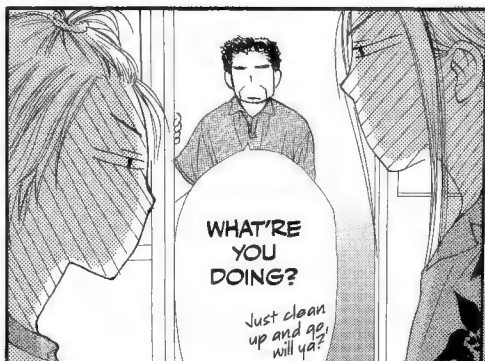
I
LOVE

YOU SO
MUCH.

WHO'S THE
ONE WHO
WAS WEEPING
AND WAILING
ABOUT HOW
NUTS SHE IS
ABOUT ME,
HUH?!

WELL...

ZWA



...AND
I'M
REALLY
HAPPY
AND
EXCITED
ABOUT
IT...

SO
YEAH,
WE'RE
FINALLY
GOING
OUT...

...BUT
THERE'S
JUST ONE
PROBLEM.

...WELL,
WHAT
IT IS,
IS...

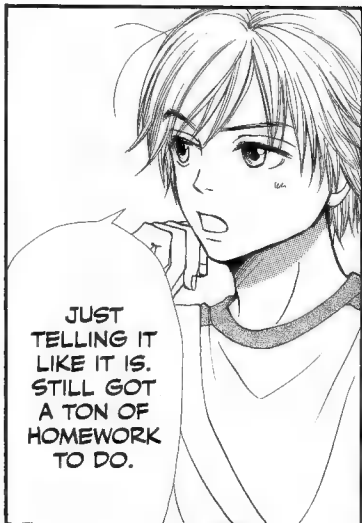
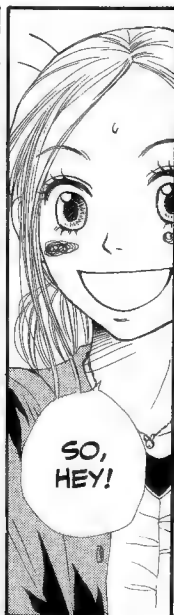
Bye-
bye!

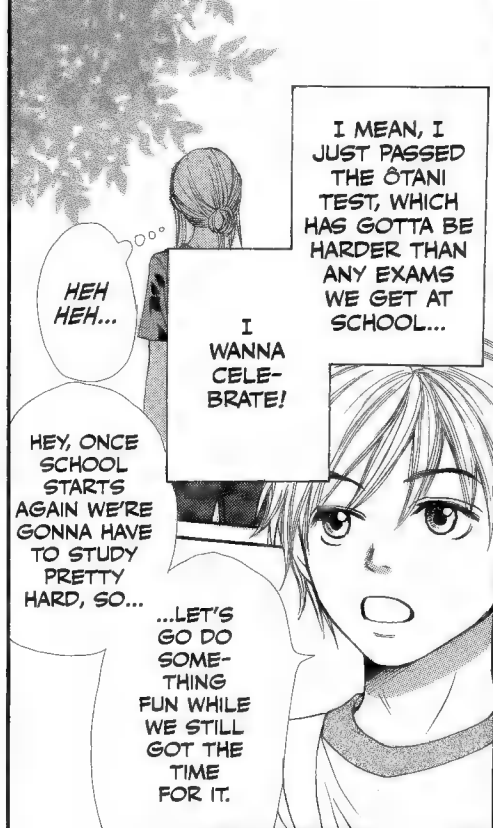
Ha
ha
ha!

M
M
M
M
M

M
M
M
M
M

M
M
M
M
M





HEH
HEH...

HEY, ONCE
SCHOOL
STARTS
AGAIN WE'RE
GONNA HAVE
TO STUDY
PRETTY
HARD, SO...

I
WANNA
CELE-
BRATE!

...LET'S
GO DO
SOME-
THING
FUN WHILE
WE STILL
GET THE
TIME
FOR IT.

I MEAN, I
JUST PASSED
THE ÔTANI
TEST, WHICH
HAS GOTTA BE
HARDER THAN
ANY EXAMS
WE GET AT
SCHOOL...



OH
YEAH...

WHO
CARES...
ABOUT
STUFF
LIKE
THAT...?

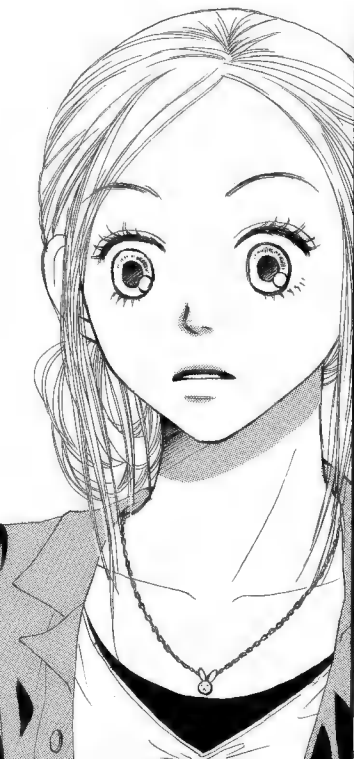


HEH?

DON'T,
STUPID.

I'LL CALL
NOBU AND
SEE IF...

YEAH,
TOTALLY!





...YOU
GOT A
PROBLEM
WITH THAT?



THIS IS
GONNA
BE A
DATE!!

...



GOD!!
A DATE!!
OMIGOD!!

MY

OH



RIGHT!

NO,
SIR!

GAWW!

GAWW!



THIS
TIME,
IT'S A
DATE.
A REAL
DATE.

WHAT
DO I
WEAR?!

A
A
G
H
!!

SO OKAY,
WE *HAVE*
GONE OUT
ALONE
BEFORE,
LOTS OF
TIMES.

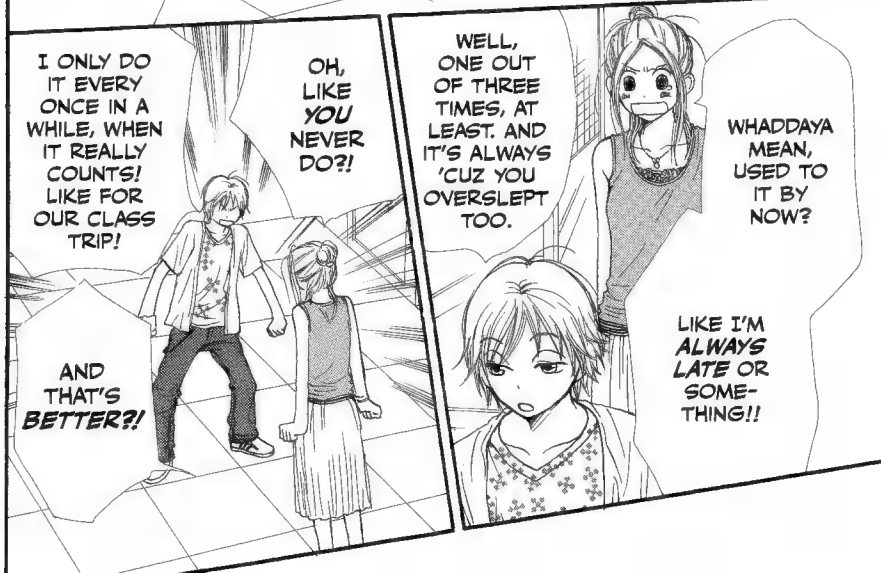
FWAP

FWAP

BUT THIS
TIME'S
TOTALLY
DIFFERENT.

SO I AM
SUPER-
PSYCHED!!

BOOM







'Cuz
you
were
totally
late!

WHAT AM I
SUPPOSED
TO DO,
WAIT HERE
ANOTHER
HOUR? AND
THEN WE'LL
HAVE EVEN
LESS TIME
DOWNTOWN!

LET
ME
GO
HOME
AND
GET...



OH!

WHAT
?!

BUT MY
MONEY
AND
EVERY-
THING'S
IN...



YOU
WHAT?!

FLUSTER
FLUSTER

I was
in a huge
hurry 'cuz
I was
late, so...



...

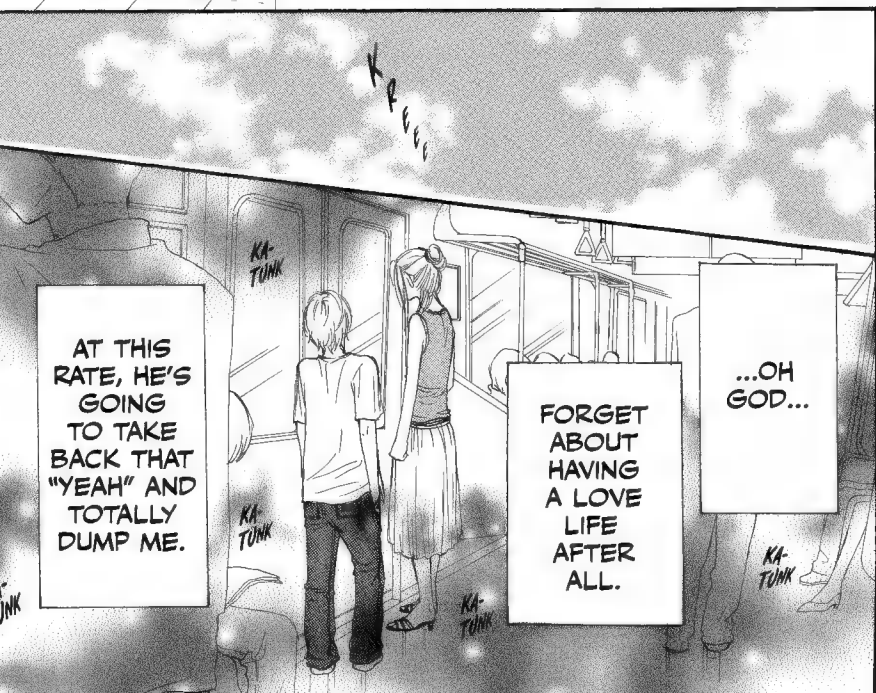
SO LET
ME GO
HOME
AND
GET MY
PURSE...



I
FOUND
SOME
COINS
IN MY
POCKET.
♡

WE CAN
GO PLAY
PACHINKO
AROUND
THE
CORNER!!

OH
GREAT,
THAT'S
A HUGE
HELP!!







Hello. Nakahara here.
We're up to Volume 8!

Sooooo...
How are you, everybody?

As I write this, it's only June, but it's already super-hot out. I almost fainted when I went out for a few moments the other day, so I made a solemn pledge to myself to spend this summer holed up inside the house.

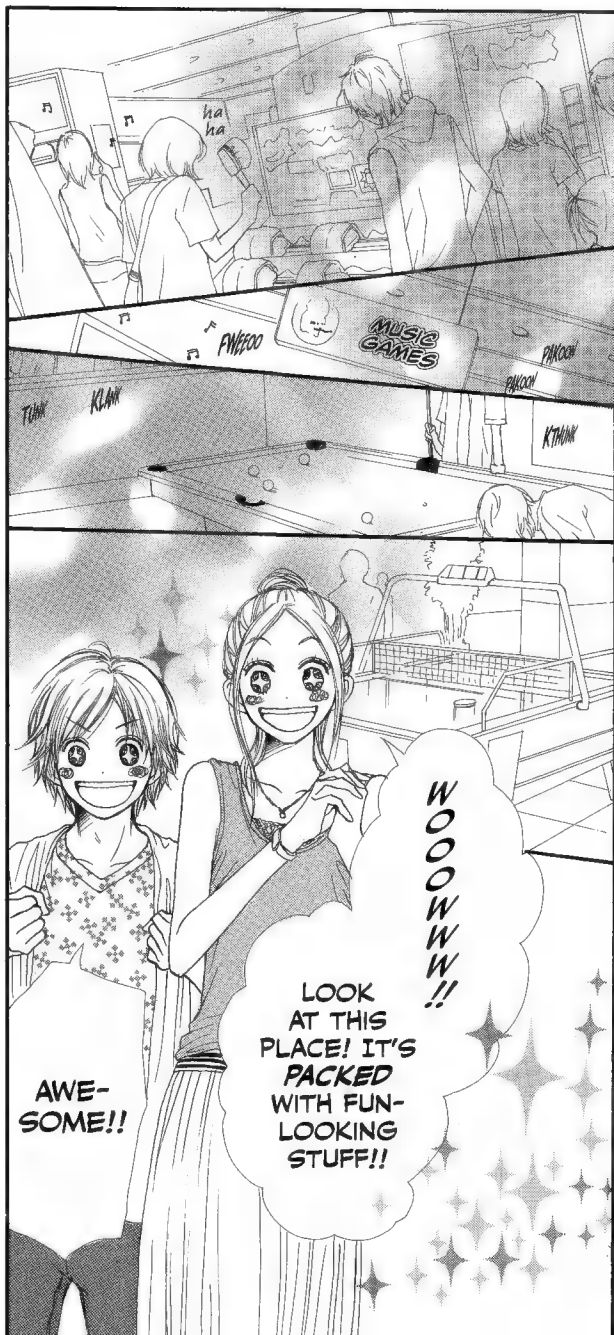
Like, was that really necessary? I'm always holed up inside the house anyway.
hahahahahaha

Not to mention, who cares? Do you care?
No. It's like, whatever!

But if you listen to people talking on the street, they're all talking about stuff nobody cares about, actually. Like,

"Gosh, it's crowded..."
"Man, it's hot..."
"Wow, what a beautiful day..."

Stuff anybody can see for themselves. You don't need to say it out loud!





WHEN I SAW
THE FLYER,
AND ALL THE
GAMES THEY
GOT HERE, I WAS
LIKE, KOIZUMI'S
GONNA GO NUTS
IN THIS PLACE!
I JUST KNEW
YOU'D LOVE IT.

I'M
HAVING A
GREAT
TIME!!
I LOVE
THIS
PLACE!!

YOU
HAVING
A GOOD
TIME?!

I KNEW
YOU
WOULD!!

WAAAA



OKAY,
ONE
MORE
TIME!
AND THIS
TIME I'M
GONNA
BEAT
YOU!!

DADIDOO
S

...HE
WAS
THINK-
ING
ABOUT
ME...

...OTANI
...





**YOU
LOOK
CUTER IF
YOU LET
THE GUY
WIN!!**

**ULP!! OF
COURSE!!**



HEH,
HEH.
JUST
MY
LUCKY
DAY, I
GUESS.

GOOOOSH,
YOU ARE
SOOO
GOOOD!
♡

I LOST
AGAIN!

OH,
DAAA-
AARN!

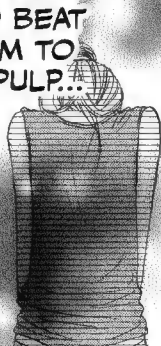


HEY, PAY
ATTENTION.
GAME'S
ABOUT TO
START.

...AND THEN
I PILED ON
EVERY KILLER
GAMING
MOVE
I KNOW
TO BEAT
HIM TO
A PULP...

...AND WHAT
DID I DO?
I FORGOT
MY PURSE AT
HOME AND
CAME LATE...

STANI PICKED
THIS PLACE
OUT FOR OUR
FIRST DATE
BECAUSE HE
WAS THINKING
ABOUT ME
AND WHAT
I'D ENJOY...





I SUCK.
I AM THE
TOTAL
PITS...



...HEY,
OTANI?

HM?

HEY, YOU
WANNA PLAY
PING PONG
NEXT? WHEN
WE'RE DONE
HERE?

...I'VE
NEVER BEEN
ON A DATE
WITH ANYBODY
BEFORE IN MY
ENTIRE LIFE.

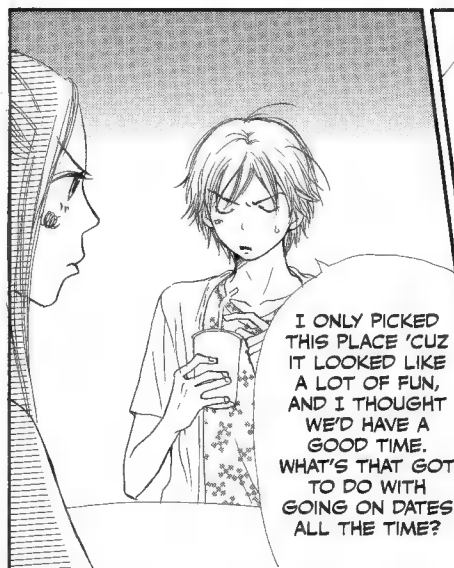
SO I
DON'T
KNOW
WHAT I'M
SUPPOSED
TO DO.

WELL,
IT'S
JUST
THAT...

WHERE'D
THAT
COME
FROM?

DID YOU
GO ON A
LOT OF
DATES WITH
YOUR OLD
GIRLFRIEND?

**B
W
O
S**



I ONLY PICKED
THIS PLACE 'CUZ
IT LOOKED LIKE
A LOT OF FUN,
AND I THOUGHT
WE'D HAVE A
GOOD TIME.
WHAT'S THAT GOT
TO DO WITH
GOING ON DATES
ALL THE TIME?

STOP
TALKING
ABOUT ME
LIKE I'M
MISTER
SMOOTH
OR SOME-
THING!!

BUT YOU
SEEM REALLY
USED TO IT,
LIKE YOU GO
OUT ON DATES
ALL THE TIME.
LIKE, THE WAY
YOU PICKED
THIS PLACE...



IT'S NOT
FAIR. I
WANT TO
GRAB YOU
BY THE
HEART-
STRINGS,
TOO.

YEAH.

MY, MY.
SO I'VE
GRABBED
YOU BY THE
HEART-
STRINGS
HAVE I?

SORRY,
GIRL, BUT
I'M NOT A
PUSHOVER
LIKE YOU
ARE.

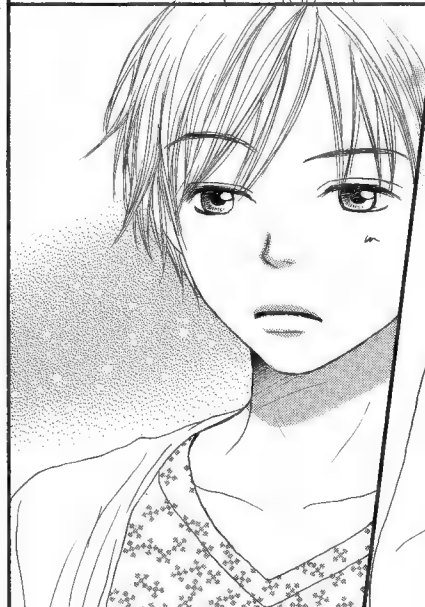


WELL,
IT WAS
PERFECT.
YOU REALLY
GRABBED
ME BY THE
HEART-
STRINGS,
ÔTANI.





HANG ON, I'VE GOT A BAND-AID YOU CAN PUT ON IT!



...

HEY,
IT'S NO
BIG DEAL.
WHAT'S UP
WITH YOU
TODAY?

YOU'RE
TRYING
TOO HARD.
JUST
BE THE
WAY YOU
ALWAYS
ARE.

GUESS I
SHOULDN'T
KEEP COM-
PARING
MYSELF
TO HER.

AND SHE
WAS SO
CUTE TOO,
THAT GIRL
MAYU...

BET IF THAT
HAPPENED ON
A DATE WITH
HIS EX, SHE'D
PRODUCE
A BAND-AID
THAT FAST. BET
SHE CARRIES
DOZENS OF
THEM AROUND.

I MEAN,
SHE WAS
ONLY THE
BASKET-
BALL TEAM
MANAGER.

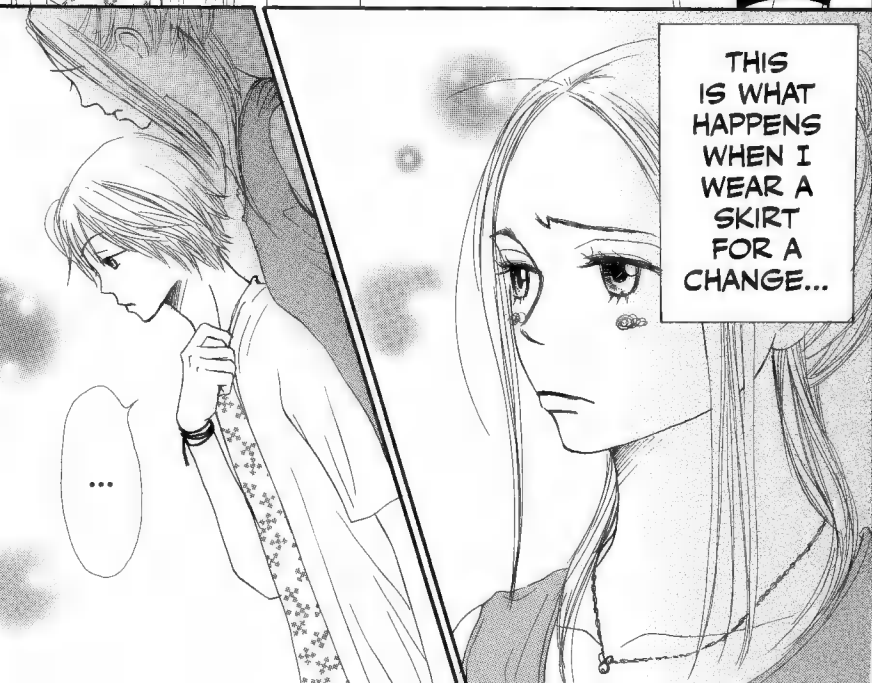
...KIND
OF A
LET-
DOWN?

A loser
like this.

BUT I CAN'T
HELP THINK-
ING, ISN'T A
LOSER LIKE
THIS AFTER
A CUTIE
LIKE THAT...

BET SHE'S
SUPER-
THOUGHT-
FUL.







GO
GET ME
SOME-
THING,
WILL
YOU?

YOU GOT
THOSE
COINS
ON YOU,
RIGHT?

I'M
THIRSTY!

HUH?! BUT
YOU JUST
FINISHED
YOUR DRINK
A SECOND
AGO!



YES-
SIR!! I SURE
DO,
SIR!!

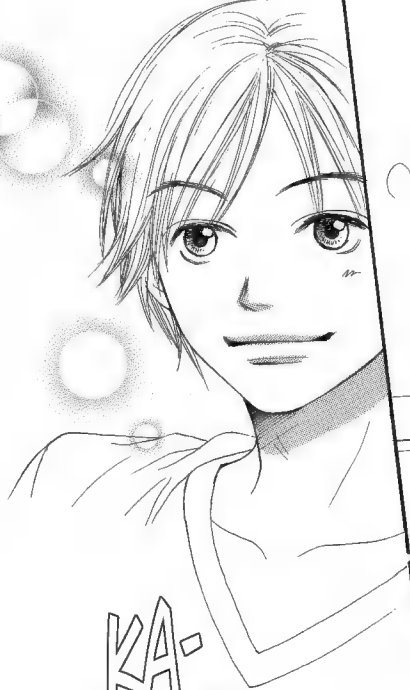
SO GO
ON AND
GET ME
THAT
DRINK!!

YESSIR!!



DON'T TRY
TO BE SMART,
STUPID!
I THOUGHT
YOU WANTED TO
GRAB THOSE
HEARTSTRINGS!!

...YOU'RE
JUST TRYING
TO MAKE ME
FEEL LIKE I'M
NOT TOTALLY
USELESS,
AREN'T YOU...



KA-
TONK



I'M
FALLING
FOR HIM
ALL
OVER
AGAIN.

ÔTANI
IS
SUCH
A
GREAT
GUY.

...OH
MY
GOD...



OH
GOSH...

IS
ÔTANI
REALLY
OKAY
WITH
THIS?

WISH
I COULD
LOOK
GOOD
AND MAKE
HIM FALL
FOR ME
ALL OVER
AGAIN.

Right
now I'm
just a
step-n-
fatchit.

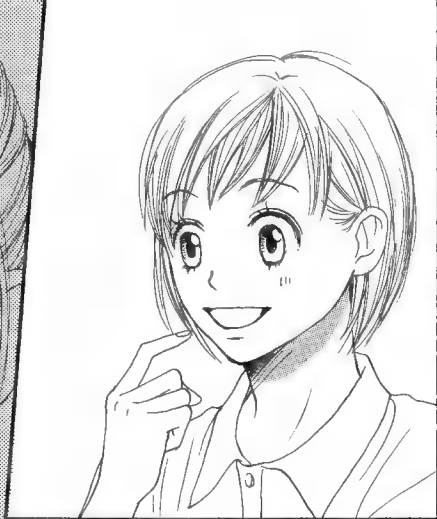
I'M NOT
CUTE AND
SWEET AND
THOUGHTFUL
LIKE HIS
OLD GIRL-
FRIEND.

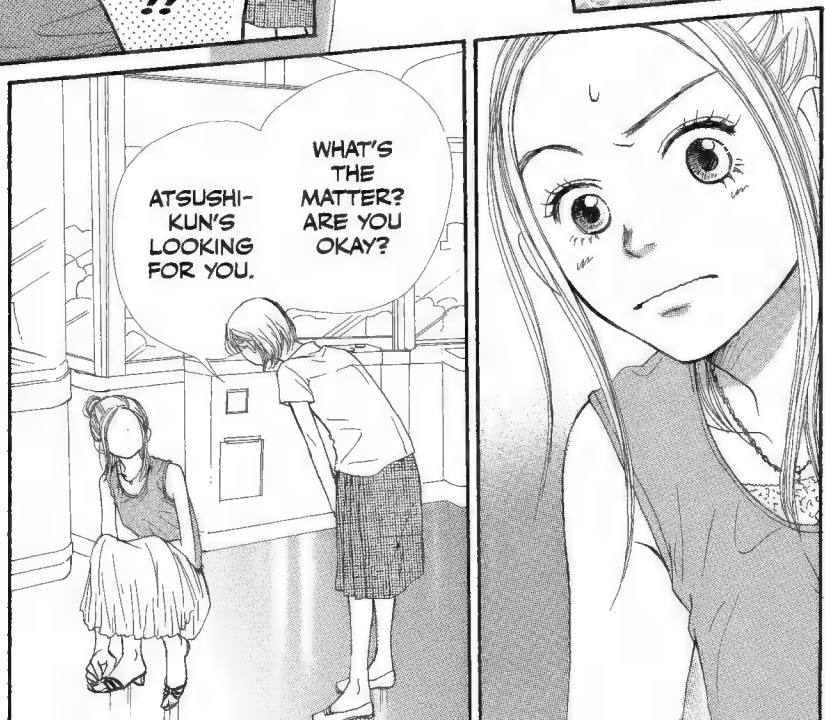
IS HE
REALLY
FINE WITH
HAVING
ME BE
HIS GIRL-
FRIEND?

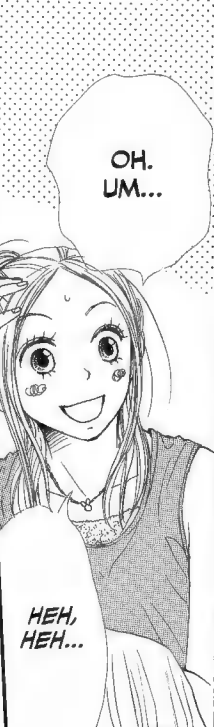
I'M
JUST
THIS
LAME,
WORTH-
LESS
JUMBO-
GAL.



...OMI-
GOD.









CAN YOU
RAISE
YOUR
FOOT
FOR A
MINUTE?

OF
COURSE
SHE HAS
BAND-
AIDS.

...YEAH.
JUST
LIKE I
THOUGHT
...



SHE'S
SO NICE
TOO.
AND SO
PERFECT.
AND SO
OPPOSITE
OF ME.





SHE HAD
THESE
BLISTERS
ON HER
FEET,
AND THEY
BURST...

WHAT?
WHAT'S
GOING
ON
HERE?

ATSUSHI-
KUN!

TOK

HUH?

OH,
THERE
YOU
ARE!

OH,
YEAH,
WOW!
OUCH.

WHY
DIDN'T
YOU SAY
ANY-
THING?!

I CAN'T...



I LOOK
SO
STUPID
RIGHT
NOW.

...TAKE
THIS.
I JUST
CAN'T.



...GOOD-
BYE,
ÔTANI...

YOU'D
RATHER
GET BACK
TOGETHER
WITH MAYU,
WOULDN'T
YOU?

YOU
DON'T
WANT TO
GO OUT
WITH
SOMEONE
THIS
PATHETIC,
DO YOU?



COME TO
THINK OF
IT, SHE
BROKE UP
WITH HER
BOYFRIEND.
SO I
GUESS
IT'S...



HUH...?

KOIZUMI.

I'M
SORRY,
WHAT
WAS
YOUR
NAME
AGAIN?

OOPS,
UM...



I'LL
TAKE
OVER
FROM
HERE.

THANKS,
MAYU.

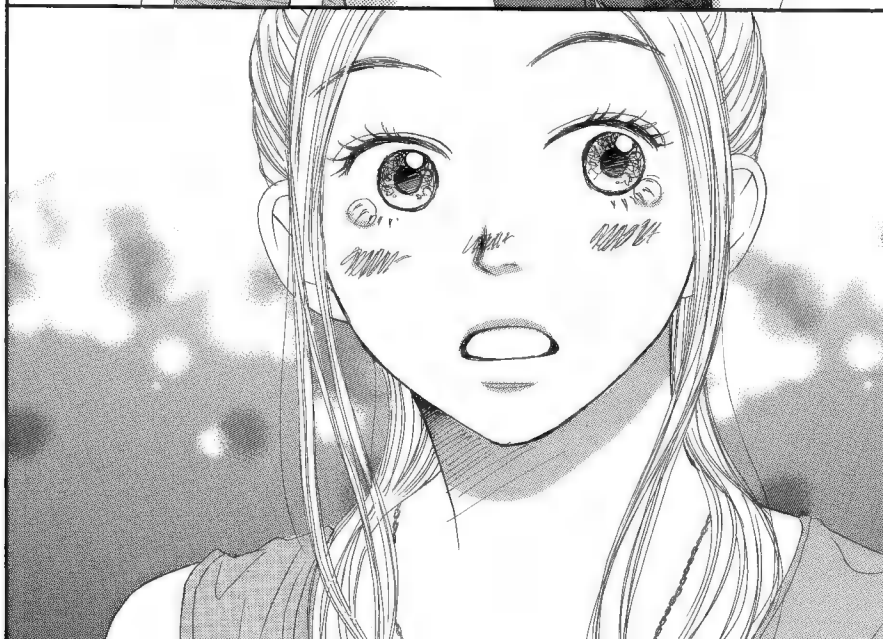
I HAD A
GREAT
TIME
WITH YOU,
SHORT
THOUGH
IT WAS...

OH,
REALLY?
OKAY.
SO...



IT'S
RISA
KOIZUMI.

AND
SHE'S
MY
GIRL-
FRIEND.







YOU SURE
YOU WANT ME
TO BE YOUR
GIRLFRIEND...?

HUH?



HE
SAID "MY
GIRL-
FRIEND"...



I BUMPED
INTO HER
ON HER
WAY BACK
FROM THE
BATHROOM.

SHE'S HERE
WITH GIANT
BABA. THEY
GOT BACK
TOGETHER.

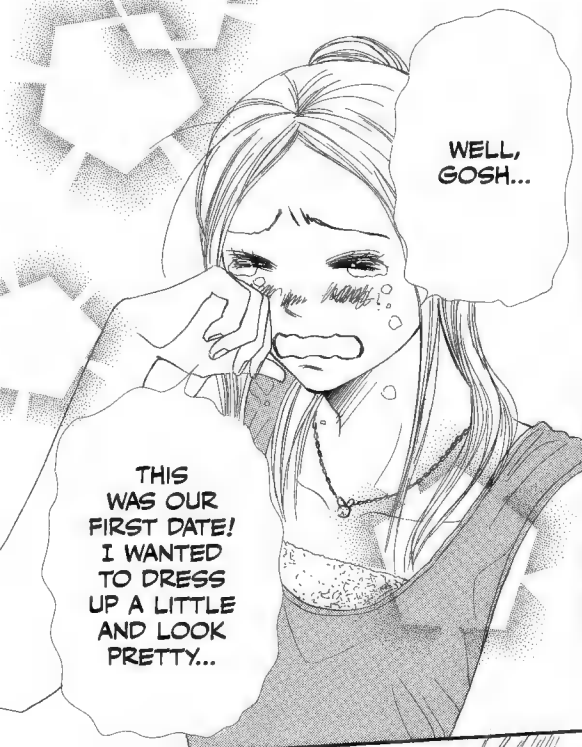


...NOW
YOU
ASK ME?
JEEZ.



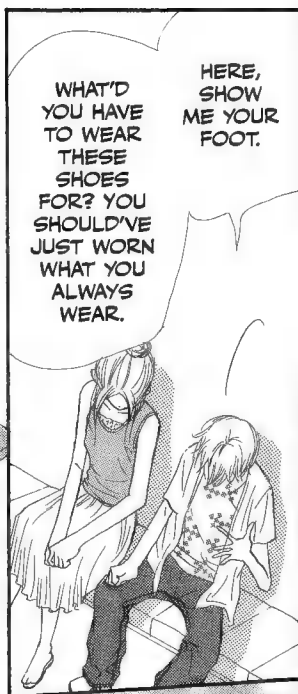
...ARE
YOU
SURE
...?

SO
THAT'S
COOL.
I WAS
GLAD TO
HEAR IT.



WELL,
GOSH...

THIS
WAS OUR
FIRST DATE!
I WANTED
TO DRESS
UP A LITTLE
AND LOOK
PRETTY...



WHAT'D
YOU HAVE
TO WEAR
THESE
SHOES
FOR? YOU
SHOULD'VE
JUST WORN
WHAT YOU
ALWAYS
WEAR.

HERE,
SHOW
ME YOUR
FOOT.



HIS
GIRL-
FRIEND...

OOH.



HUH?
WHAT
DID
YOU
SAY
?

THAT
KINDA GOT
ME. FELT
A LITTLE
TUG OVER
HERE.

NOTHING.

I GUESS
HE IS
OKAY WITH
HAVING
ME BE
HIS GIRL-
FRIEND.



OTANI
AND I...

5'2"

ATSUSHI

RISA

5'8"

OTANI
(17)

...HAVE BEEN
KNOWN
AS "ALL
HANSHIN-
KYOJIN"
FROM THE
VERY FIRST
DAY OF HIGH
SCHOOL.

KOINUMI
(18)



BUT
NOW...

...WE'RE
BOY-
FRIEND-
GIRL-
FRIEND!

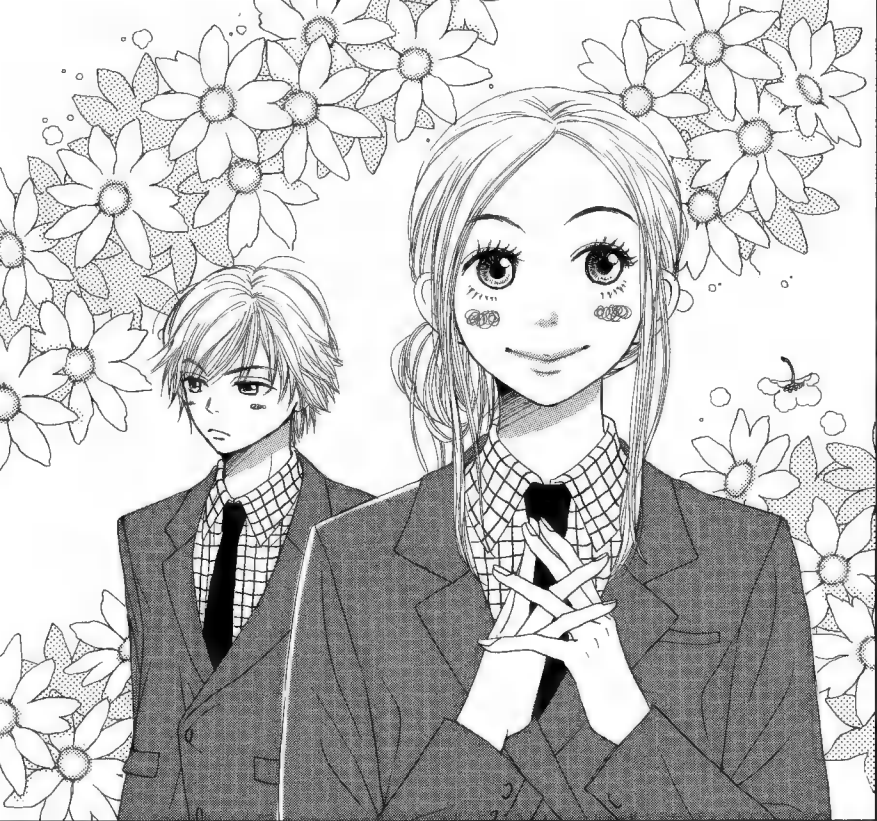
STUPID

IDIOT

MICRO-BOY

JUMBO-GAL







CHAPTER 30





IT'S THE
START OF
A NEW
SEMESTER.

*Start-of-term
Ceremony*

I AM
SO SURE,
RISA!
I MEAN,
JEEZ!!

BUT THE
UPSHOT
IS, I AM
A VERY
HAPPY
GIRL
RIGHT
NOW.
♡

...THAT
IT WENT
BY IN A
FLASH
AND
LASTED
FOREVER,
BOTH AT
THE SAME
TIME.

SO MUCH
HAPPENED
OVER
SUMMER
VACATION...



AFTER
ALL THE
SUPPORT I
GAVE YOU...
AFTER ALL
THE HAND-
HOLDING
AND PEP-
TALKING...

I JUST
CAN'T
BELIEVE
THIS...



HEE
HEE...

HOW COULD
YOU STAY
MUM ABOUT
SOMETHING
THIS BIG?!



I'M
SORRY,
NOBU!!

...YOU
DON'T EVEN
CALL ME
WHEN YOU
FINALLY GET
TOGETHER?

AND I
THOUGHT
WE WERE
BEST
FRIENDS...



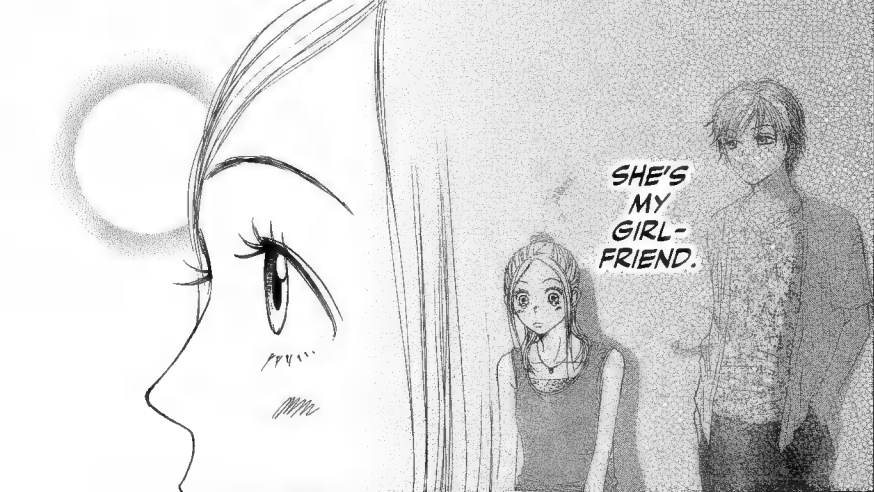
BUT NOW
YOU CAN,
RIGHT?

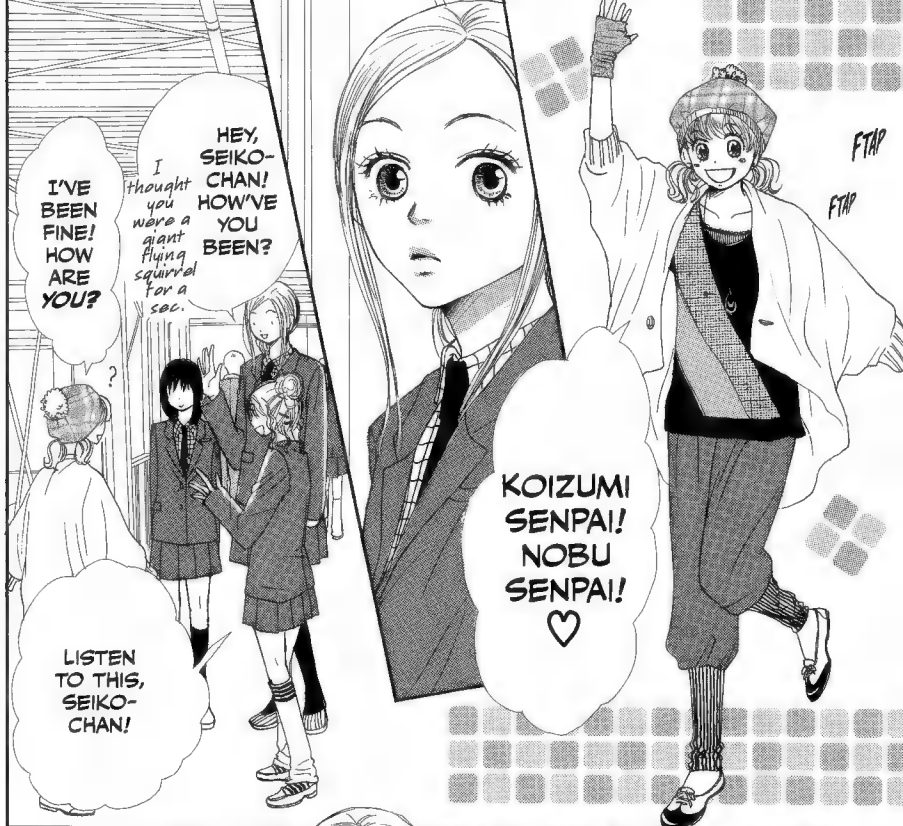


RISA...



IT'S
JUST THAT...
I COULDN'T
REALLY
BELIEVE
IT MYSELF.
YOU KNOW?





I'VE
BEEN
FINE!
HOW
ARE
YOU?

I
thought
you
were a
giant
flying
squirrel
for a
sec.

HEY,
SEIKO-
CHAN!
HOW'VE
YOU
BEEN?

LISTEN
TO THIS,
SEIKO-
CHAN!

KOIZUMI
SENPAI!
NOBU
SENPAI!
♡

FTAP

FTAP

OMIGOSH,
SENPAI!
YOU
WORKED
SO HARD
FOR THIS,
DIDN'T
YOU?!

YEAH,
WELL...

HEH
HEH.

IT SURE
TOOK
LONG
ENOUGH,
HUH?

THEY
DIIIIID?!
OH MY
GOD!!

RISA AND
OTANI
FINALLY
GOT
TOGETHER!

THANK
YOU!!
THANK YOU
SO MUCH,
SEIKO-
CHAN!!

S
K
W
E
E
E



SEIKO-
CHAN...



I HOPE
YOU'LL BE
REALLY
HAPPY
TOGETHER!

OHOO!
WOWWWW!
HOW
WONDERFUL,
SENPAI!

I'M SO
EXCITED
FOR YOU,
SENPAI!

THIS IS
THE MOST
THRILLING
THING I'VE
HEARD IN
A LONG
TIME!



C'MON,
LET'S
GO, THE
CEREMONY'S
ABOUT TO
START.

I'M SO
GLAD I
DIDN'T
GIVE UP
WHEN HE
REJECTED
ME.

I REALLY
DID WORK
HARD
FOR THIS.
BUT IT WAS
WORTH IT.

IT'LL
BE
TOUGH
GOING
...

...FOR
ALL
OF YOU
THIRD-
YEAR
STUDENTS,
BUT...



NOW
I CAN
FINALLY...

...TELL
THE
WHOLE
WORLD
THAT
ÔTANI'S
MY BOY-
FRIEND.




...

WHAT'RE
YOU SO
MAD
ABOUT?



AWW,
HOW
CUTE.
HE'S
EMBAR-
RASSED!

DON'T
BE SUCH
A BAD
SPORT,
LOVER-
BOY!



WHAT'S
WRONG
WITH THAT?
THEY WERE
GOING TO
FIND OUT
ANYWAY.

...

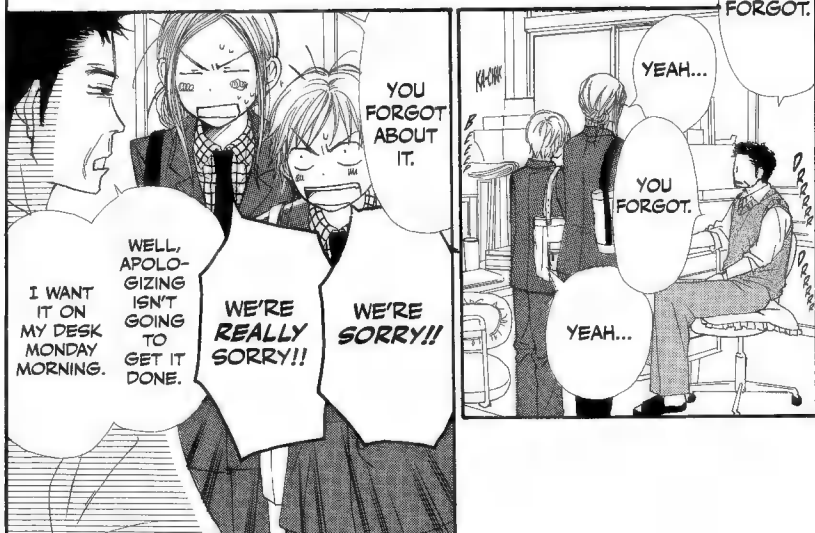
...I TOLD
YOU NOT
TO GO
AROUND
BLABBING
IT TO
EVERYBODY.



OH.











WOW!
REALLY
?!

I'LL COME
PICK YOU
UP AT THE
STATION
TOMORROW.

HEY!
WHAT'S
THAT
MEAN?

I'M GOING
OVER TO
HIS HOUSE
TO STUDY.



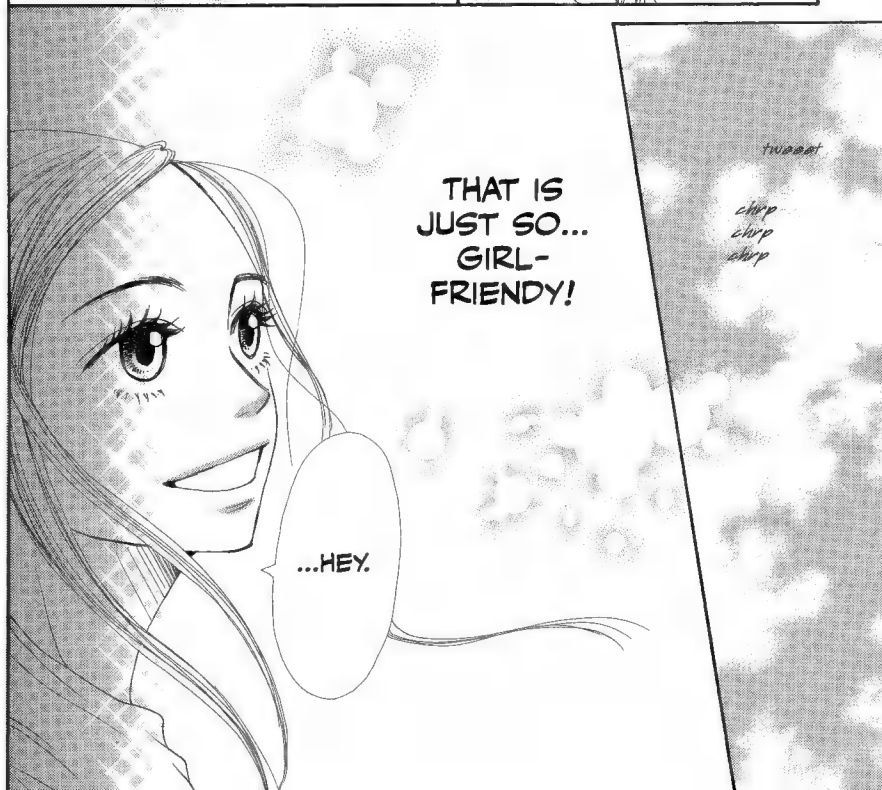
REMEMBER
THAT TIME
YOU CAME
OVER?

WELL,
MY MOM
FELL IN
LOVE
WITH
YOU OR
SOME-
THING.

SHE'S
BEEN,
LIKE,
BRING
HER
OVER,
EVER
SINCE.

ARE
YOU
SERI-
OUS?!

GUESS
YOU'RE
SO BIG,
YOU MAKE
A BIG
IMPRESSION.



THAT IS
JUST SO...
GIRL-
FRIENDY!

...HEY.

twaaat

chirp
chirp
chirp

UJ (the bank) and
USJ (Universal
Studios Japan)...

I still need to think a
little before I say one
or the other, or I got
them mixed up.

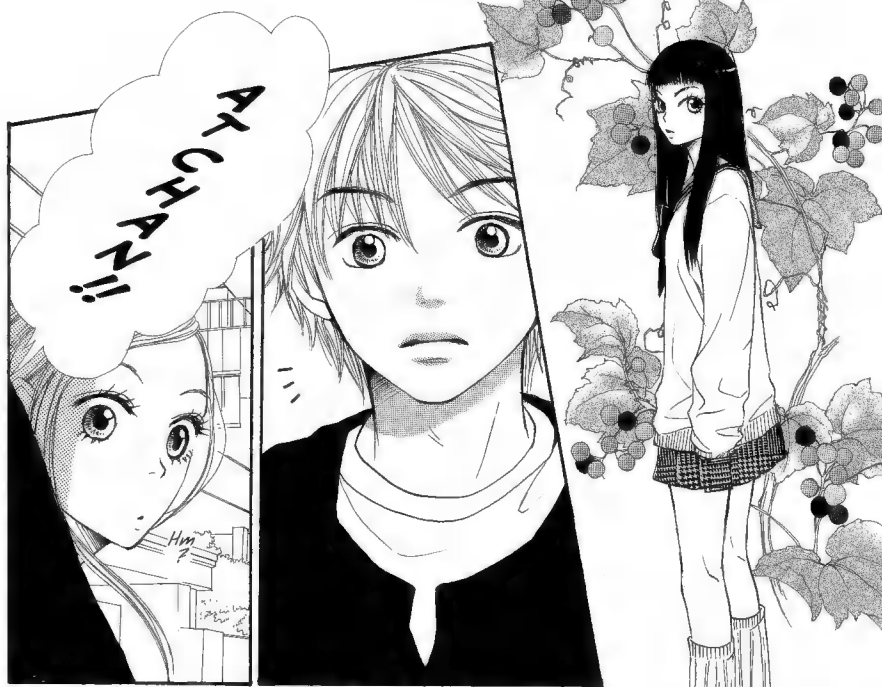
USJ is pretty close
to my house, so I've
already been there
five or six times.
It's a really...
fun place...! It's not so
much the attractions
as the people who come.

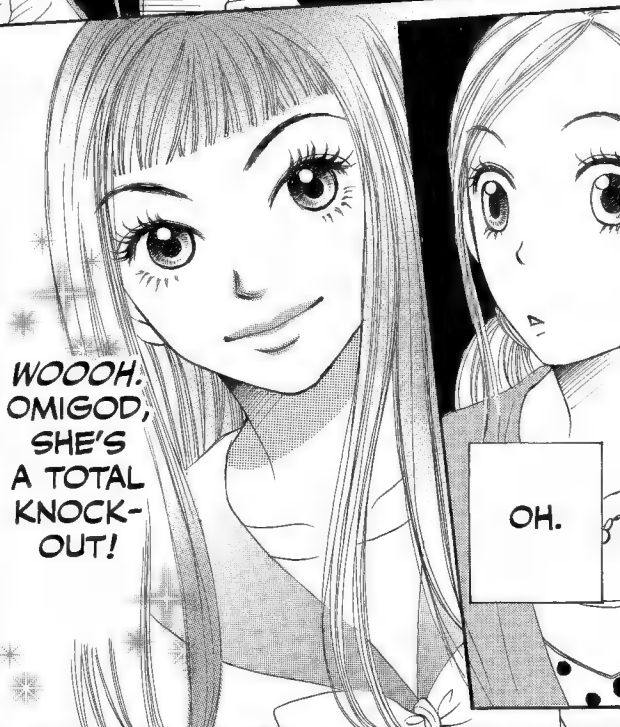
They're all soaking wet,
and yet they all have
huge grins on their
faces like they're big
fools or something.
I'm talking drenched.
Wherever you go in
that place, they're
splashing water on you.
But everyone's smiling.
Isn't that great...?
You don't find many
places where you can
see that many people
laughing all at once.
It's a balm for the soul.
Keep smiling, everybody!

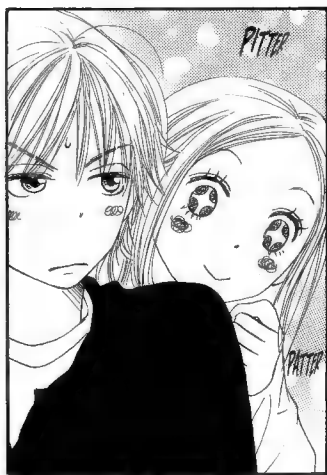
A laugh a day keeps
the doctor away.

Gotta smile!











BYE,
MIMI! I'LL
SEE YOU
AROUND!



OOH, SO
MAYBE I
CAN BE A
MODEL
TOO...

With
that
face?



HEY!
THAT'S
WHAT YOU
SAY TO
YOUR
GIRL-
FRIEND
?!

WORTH
WILL
YOU
SIT
STILL
?!



MM.

SHE
MODELS
FOR SOME
GIRLS'
MAGAZINE
OR SOME-
THING.

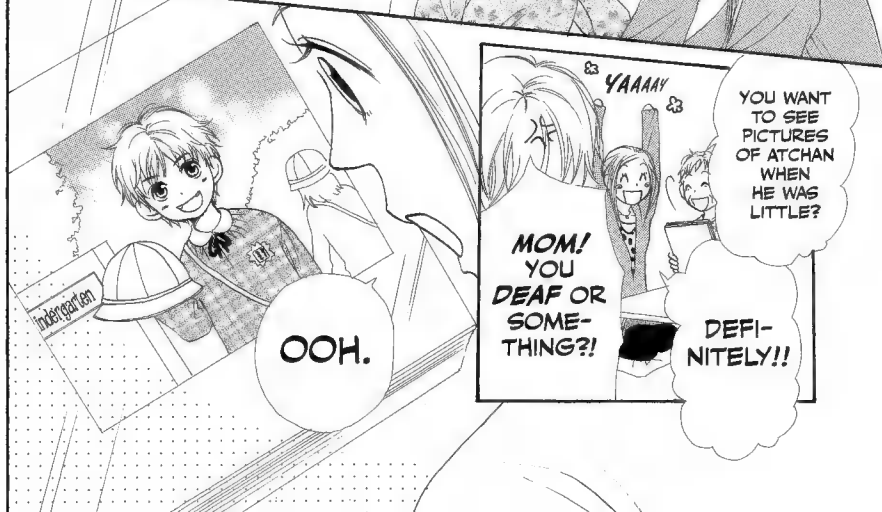
OMIGOD!
WOW!!
HOW
COOL!

THAT'S
RIGHT,
SHE
WAS
REALLY
TALL
TOO!

ABOUT
THE SAME
HEIGHT
AS YOU,
PROBABLY.



BOY,
WAS
SHE
PRETTY
...





ISN'T
HE A
CUTIE?

THAT IS
SOOOO
CUUUUTE!
♡

WHY'D
YOU HAVE
TO BRING
THAT OUT?!!
JEEZ! YOU
ARE DUST,
MOM!!



SHE'S
HERE SO
WE CAN DO A
HOMEWORK
ASSIGNMENT,
OKAY?! NOW
GET OUT,
'CUZ YOU'RE
IN OUR
WAY!! ☆☆☆

TAKE A
LOOK AT
ATCHAN
IN THIS
PICTURE,
HE'S...

HM?

GOSH,
PRETTY
GIRLS ARE
PRETTY
FROM
THE TIME
THEY'RE
LITTLE,
HUH?



HEY,
ISN'T THIS
THAT GIRL
MIMI WE
JUST MET
OUTSIDE?



WILL
YOU
**SHUT
UP AND
GET
OUT?!**

HEH?

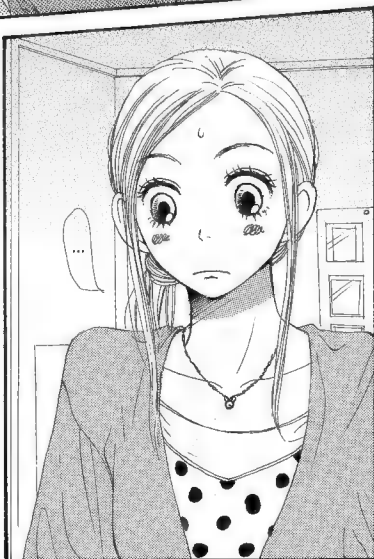
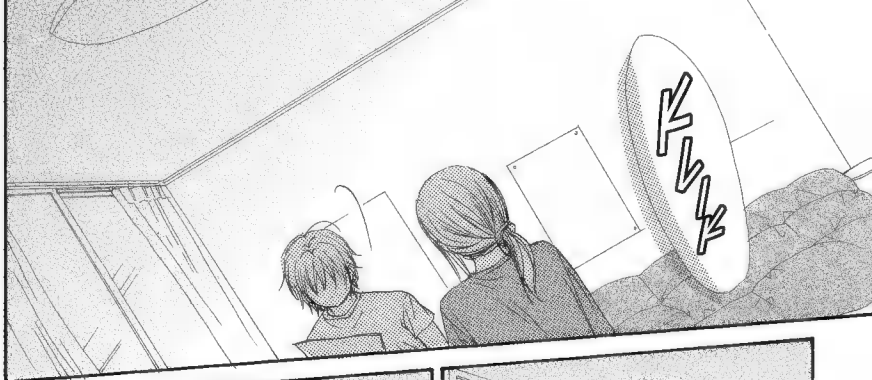
DON'T
WANT TO
**BE IN YOUR
WAY WHEN
YOU'RE...
DOING
HOMEWORK,**
DID YOU SAY?

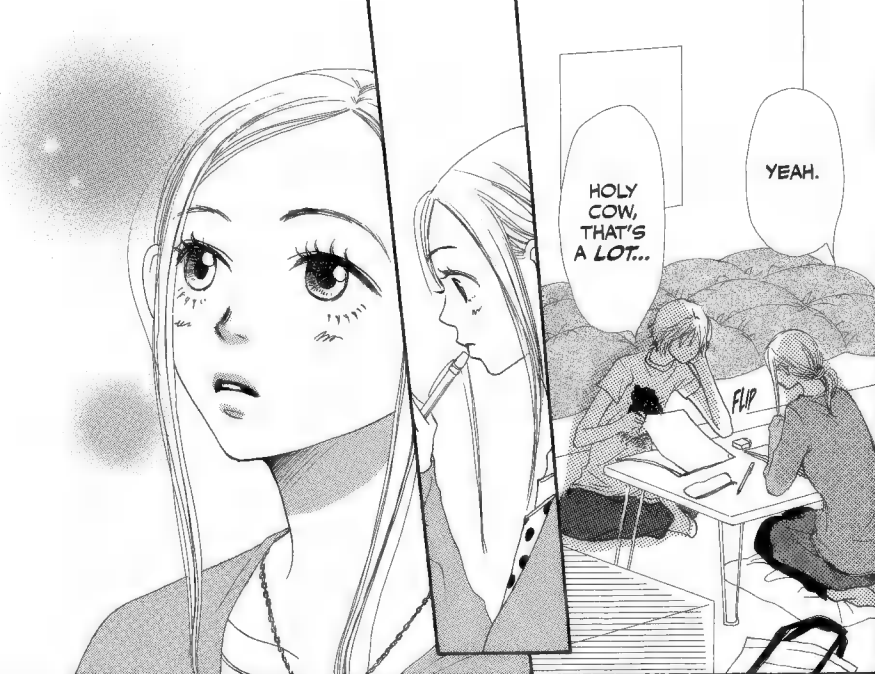
Ha!

ALL
RIGHT,
ALL
RIGHT,
I'M
GOING.

HUH?

OH,
YEAH...





HOLY
COW,
THAT'S
A LOT...

YEAH.



...I'M SEEING
ÔTANI'S ROOM
FOR THE
FIRST TIME.

...IT
FEELS
LIKE...



BUT
THIS
TIME...

WE'RE
ALL
ALONE
IN MY
BED-
ROOM...

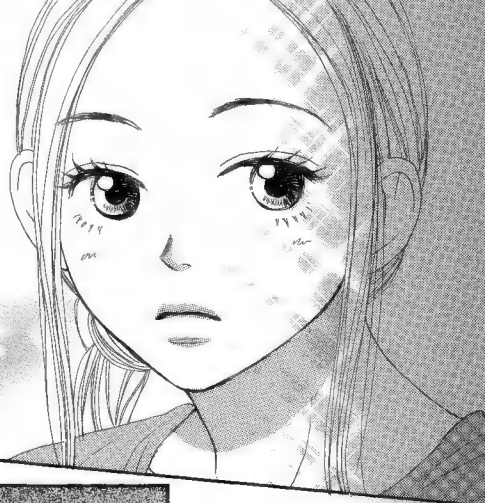
...AND I'M NOT
FEELING ANY
URGE TO MAKE
ANY KINDA
MOVE ON YOU.

...IT'S
DIFFERENT.

...I
WAS SO
DESPERATE
TO GET HIS
ATTENTION,
I HARDLY
LOOKED
AROUND.

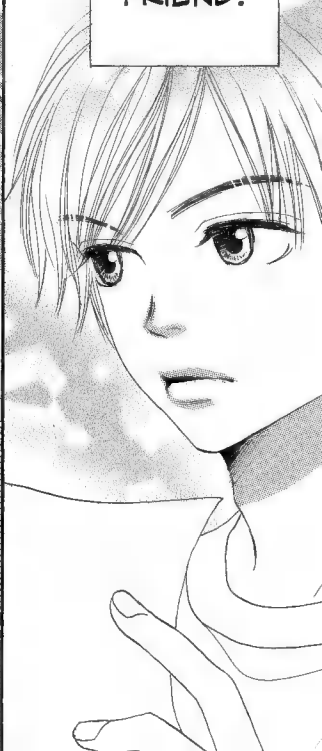
THE
LAST
TIME
I WAS
HERE...

THIS
TIME, I'M
HIS GIRL-
FRIEND.



WE'RE
GOING
OUT...

AND
ÔTANI'S
MY BOY-
FRIEND.

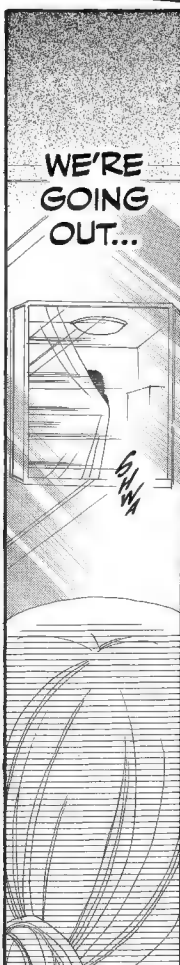


HEY,
ÔTANI
...?

HUH?
YEAH.

IS MIMI
YOUR
NEIGH-
BOR ON
THAT
SIDE?

...

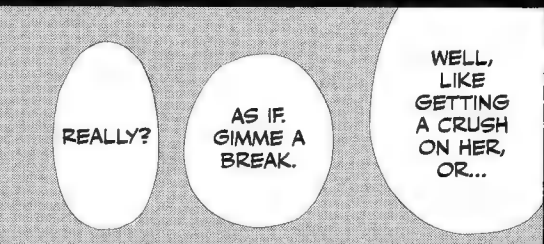




WHADDAYA
MEAN,
HAPPEN?

HEY.

YOU GROW
UP WITH A
GORGEOUS
GIRL LIKE THAT
NEXT DOOR,
DIDN'T ANY-
THING EVER
HAPPEN?



REALLY?

AS IF.
GIMME A
BREAK.

WELL,
LIKE
GETTING
A CRUSH
ON HER,
OR...



HOW
COME?

WAS SHE
WATCHING
US...?

OH,
JUST
ASKING
...

OR DID
I JUST
IMAGINE
THAT?



PLUS,
MIMI'S
BEEN WAY
TALLER
THAN ME
SINCE
DAY ONE.



YOU KNOW
EACH OTHER
SINCE YOU'RE
LITTLE,
NOTHING'S
GONNA
HAPPEN.

LOOK, IT'S
JUST LIKE
YOU AND
THAT DOPE
HARUKA OF
YOURS.

OH...
YEAH,
THAT'S
TRUE.



WELL,
I'M WAY
TALLER
THAN
YOU.

...OH.
YEAH.



WELL,
WITH
YOU, IT
DOESN'T
BOTHER
ME.

SMAK

...OH,
REALLY.

IT'S LIKE
HE WAS
SAYING...

...THAT
I'M
DIFFER-
ENT.
THAT
I'M
SPECIAL.

SMAK

SMAK

ARGH!

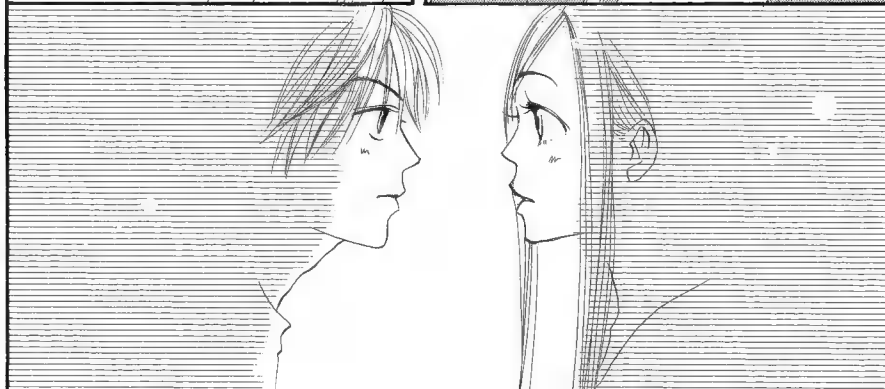
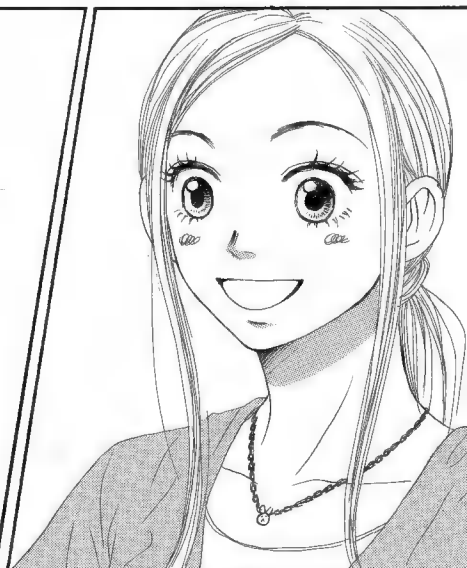
IS
THAT
SO!

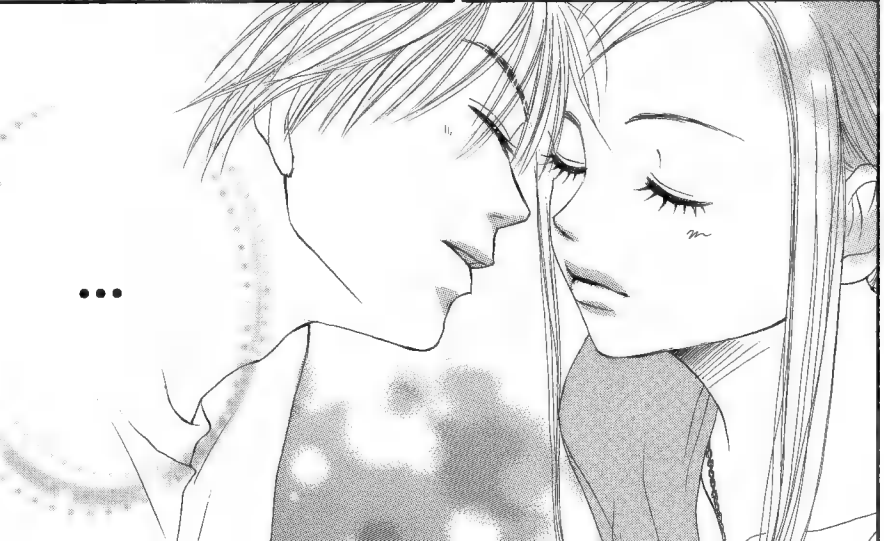
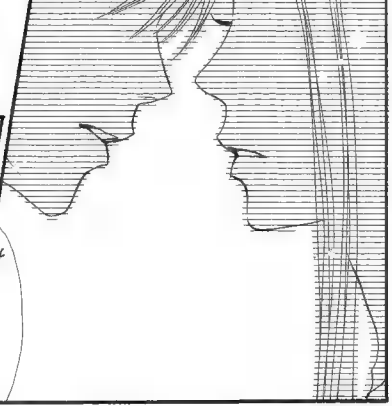
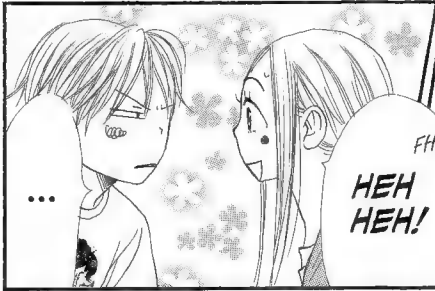
HEE HEE
HEE HEE
HEE! OH,
REALLY?!

SMAK

WHAT?!
CUT IT
OUT, IT
HURTS!!

OWW...!





...AFTER ALL THIS TIME...

...I GOT TO BE
ÔTANI'S SPECIAL GIRL.
I FINALLY DID...

ATCHAAAAAN!!



OOPS!





WHATCHA
COME
BUSTIN'
IN HERE
FOR,
ANYWAY?

I
BROUGHT
YOU YOUR
DAILY
BOTTLE
OF MILK!



DID I
INTERRUPT
SOME-
THING?

Ha
ha
ha
ha
ha.

Nah.
Not
really.



TODAY'S MILK
IS EXTRA-SPECIAL,
ATCHAN! IT'S
FLOWN IN EVERY
MORNING STRAIGHT
FROM HOKKAIDO,
AND IT'S CHOCK-
FULL OF CALCIUM!

THAT'S WHY
I BROUGHT
IT STRAIGHT
OVER, 'CUZ IT'S
SO FRESH!

SHE
BRINGS
ME MILK
EVERY DAY,
SAYING IT'S
GONNA
HELP ME
GROW.

DAILY...

...BOTTLE
OF MILK?

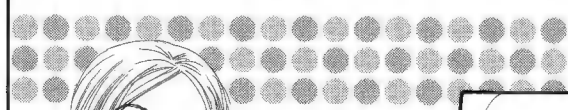


HEY!
ATCHAN,
I JUST
HEARD
YOUR MOM
CALLING
YOU.

SHE
BRINGS
YOU
MILK?
EVERY
DAY?!

WHAT'S
SO DARN
FUNNY?!

HEE
HEE
HEE
HEE
HEE
HEE!



YAAAY!

OH COME ON, ÔTANI. JUST FOR A LITTLE WHILE.

BUT I WANNA GET TO KNOW YOUR GIRL-FRIEND! JUST FOR A WHILE, PLEEZE?

SO WHAT, I GO DOWNSTAIRS AND YOU STAY HERE? I DON'T THINK SO.

NO! SHE'S OVER HERE TO DO HOME-WORK, OKAY? WE GOTTA STUDY!



TEE HEE!

TEE HEE!



KLIK



...

JUST FOR A LITTLE WHILE!

I WON'T STAY LONG!



FIVE
FOOT
EIGHT!

OMIGOD!
THAT'S
THE SAME
AS ME!



YUP!

SO I
HEARD
YOU'RE A
MODEL?

BOY,
IS SHE
CUTE...
♡

HOW
TALL
ARE
YOU?



OH...
YEAH,
I KNOW.

BUT...

OH, SO
WE'RE
THE SAME
HEIGHT.

BUT
ATCHAN
SAYS HE
DOESN'T
LIKE GIRLS
WHO'RE
TALLER
THAN HIM!



Hah
heh.
✿

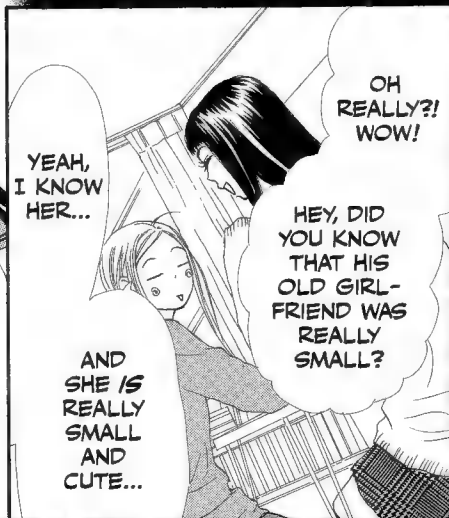
FOR SOME
REASON!

MY
HEIGHT
DOESN'T
BOTHER
HIM, HE
SAID.

WITH
YOU, IT
DOESN'T
BOTHER
ME.



THAT'S WHY
I DECIDED
TO GIVE UP
ON ATCHAN,
MYSELF.



YEAH,
I KNOW
HER...

OH
REALLY?!
WOW!

HEY, DID
YOU KNOW
THAT HIS
OLD GIRL-
FRIEND WAS
REALLY
SMALL?

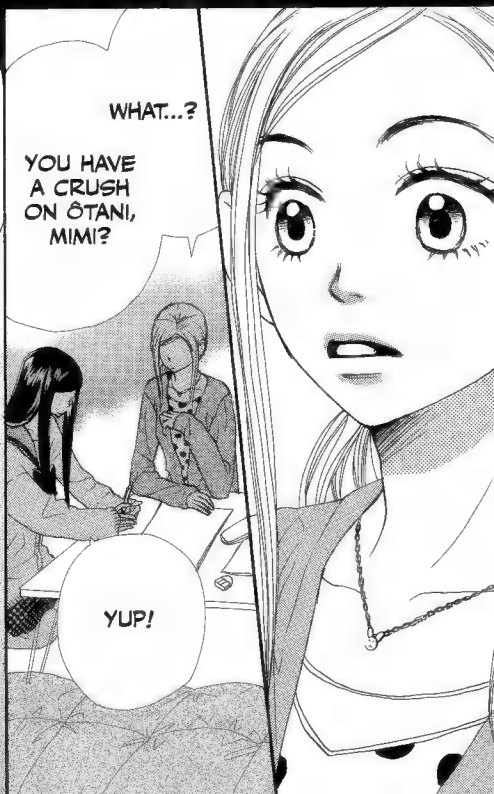
AND
SHE *IS*
REALLY
SMALL
AND
CUTE...



SO, SINCE
I CAN'T
SHRINK, MY
ONLY HOPE IS
FOR ATCHAN
TO GROW
TALLER
THAN ME.

BUT
ATCHAN
ONLY LIKES
SHORT
GIRLS, AND
I'M REALLY
TALL,
RIGHT?

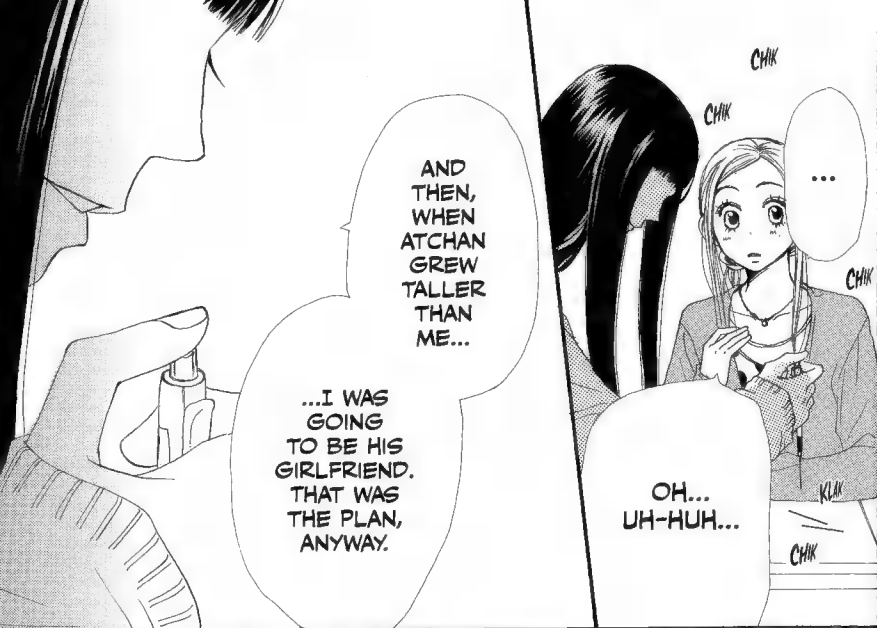
AND
THAT'S WHY
I BRING HIM
A BOTTLE
OF MILK
EVERY DAY.



WHAT...?

YOU HAVE
A CRUSH
ON ÔTANI,
MIMI?

YUP!



AND
THEN,
WHEN
ATCHAN
GREW
TALLER
THAN
ME...

...I WAS
GOING
TO BE HIS
GIRLFRIEND.
THAT WAS
THE PLAN,
ANYWAY.

OH...
UH-HUH...

KIK

CHIK



I FEEL
KINDA
BAD...
SORRY.

OH...
GOSH...
SHE'S
TOTALLY
CRAZY
ABOUT
HIM...

UMM...
WELL,
GOSH...

ZWOOK

CHIK



YOU FEEL
KINDA
BAD...?
YOU'RE
SORRY?

Tch!
DARN, I
MISSED.

**G
Y
A
A
A
A
R
G
H!**



"MY HEIGHT
DOESN'T
BOTHER HIM,
FOR SOME
REASON."
HAH! YOU
THINK YOU'RE
REALLY
SPECIAL,
DON'T YOU?

WANT ME
TO PASS A
WET NOODLE
THROUGH
YOUR NOSE
AND TIE IT
IN A BOW,
YOU STUPID
COW?



THERE IS NO WAY ATCHAN WOULD EVER ASK A BIMBO LIKE YOU OUT, THAT MUCH I KNOW FOR SURE. NO WAY!

I...

WHAT STINKING LIES DID YOU TELL TO BLACKMAIL ATCHAN INTO DATING YOU, HUH? I'M SO ONTO YOU, SCUM!

Whaaa...?

No thank you, I'll pass.



DON'T YOU EVER SAY MY NAME WITH THAT DISGUSTING MOUTH OF YOURS, OR I'LL STAB YOU!!

With this pencil!!!

Um...

Mimi...

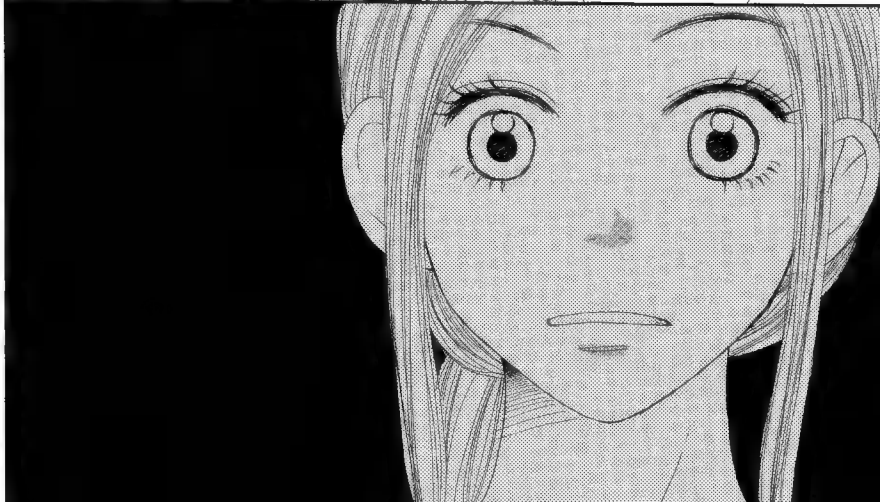
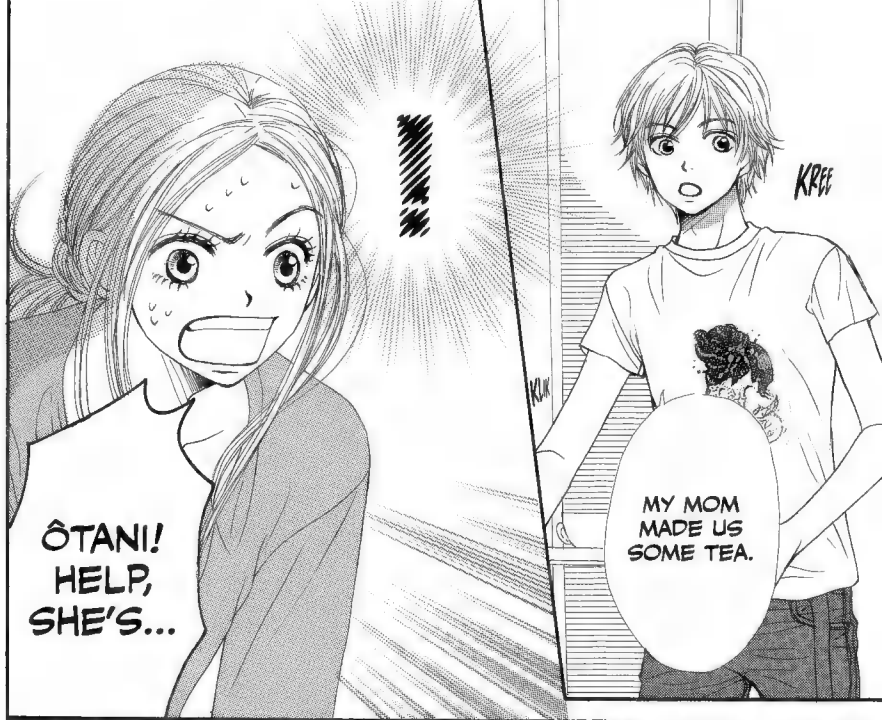


OH MY GOD...

YOU SPEND EVEN ONE MORE DAY AROUND ATCHAN...

...AND I'LL MAKE SURE YOU HATE LIFE, DOGFACE. BELIEVE IT.

KA-CHAK





CAN I
HAVE
IT?



...HUH?

OH,
SHE DID?
HOW
NICE OF
HER!

ACTUALLY,
KOIZUMI
BROUGHT
US THIS
CAKE.

MMM,
I WANT
THAT
CHOCO-
LATE
ONE!



DID I
IMAGINE
THAT
BEFORE
...?

WHAT'S
THE
MATTER,
KOIZUMI?



UH...

UH...
SURE...
GO RIGHT
AHEAD...

Please...

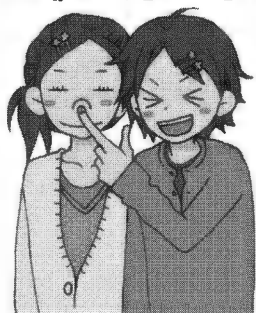
WAIT A
MINUTE
...

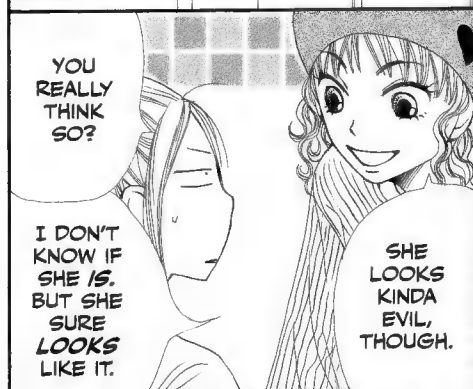
Y
A
A
A
Y!





CHAPTER 31

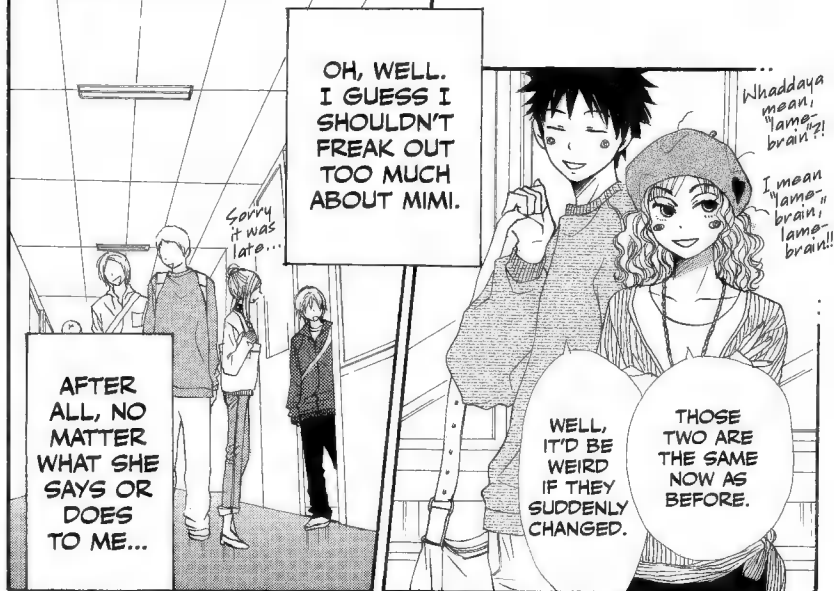


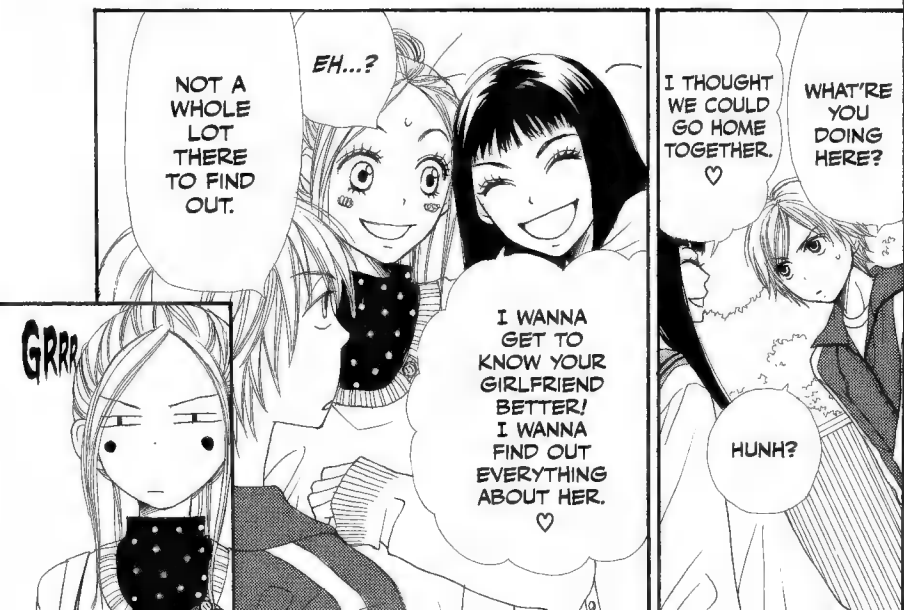


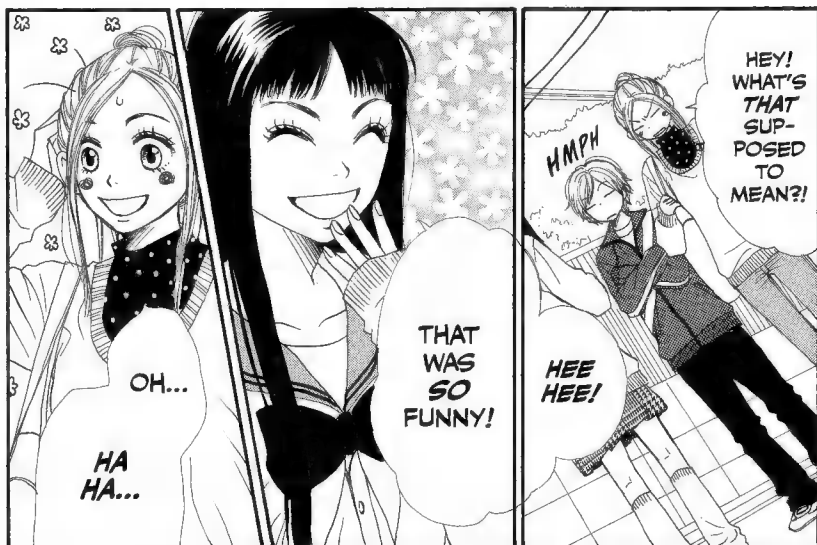




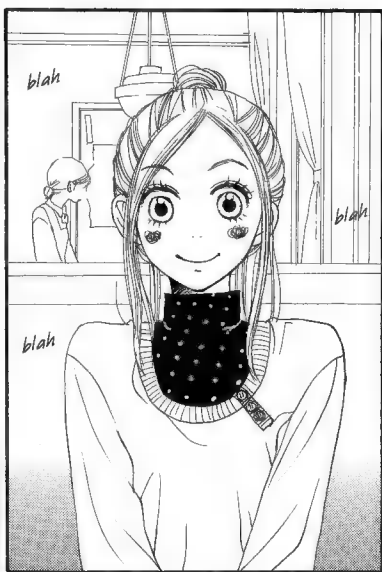


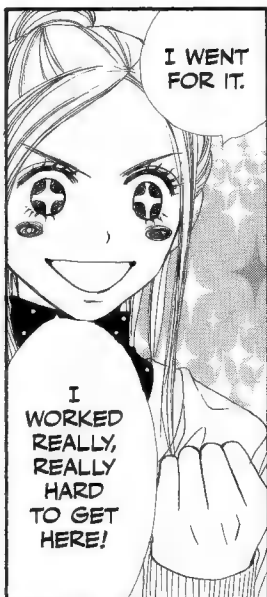












I WENT
FOR IT.

I
WORKED
REALLY,
REALLY
HARD
TO GET
HERE!



I MEAN,
HOW
COME?
WHAT'D
YOU DO?

I
DON'T
GET IT.

WHAT'D
I DO...?
WELL,
BASI-
CALLY...



I'M
REALLY
HIS GIRL-
FRIEND.

...



Oh, uh,
yeah.

I'VE BEEN
ACTING LIKE
THAT AROUND
HIM SINCE DAY
ONE, OKAY?!
HE THINKS
THAT'S WHAT
I'M LIKE ALL
THE TIME,
OKAY?! YOU
GOT ANY IDEA
HOW **HARD**
THAT IS?!

BIG
HONKING
DEAL!
I'M GOING
FOR IT! I'M
WORKING
REALLY,
REALLY
HARD TOO,
STUPID!!

YOU'VE *SEEN*
HOW SWEET
I AM AROUND
HIM! COME
ON, ADMIT IT,
I'M REALLY
SWEET
AROUND HIM,
AREN'T I?!





AND IT'S
NOT EVEN
WORKING.
ATCHAN
HASN'T GROWN
DIDDLY SQUAT
SINCE, LIKE,
HIS FIRST YEAR
OF MIDDLE
SCHOOL.

THAT MILK
I BUY HIM
EVERY DAY
TO MAKE
HIM GROW
TALLER,
IT ADDS UP.
COSTS ME
A LOTTA
MONEY,
OKAY?

*That
would
be really
hard.*

I CAN
IMAGINE
...

AND
THAT
ISN'T
ALL,
EITHER.

Now...

That
must be
really
tough.



TOTALLY
FOR REAL.
I'VE BEEN
THE TALLEST
KID IN MY
CLASS EVERY
YEAR SINCE
KINDER-
GARTEN.

**NO WAY,
FOR
REAL?!**

ME
TOO!

I WAS
ALWAYS
TALLER
THAN THE
TALLEST
BOY,
EVERY
YEAR!



I WAS
ALREADY
FIVE FOOT
SEVEN BY
THE END OF
SIXTH GRADE,
IF YOU CAN
BELIEVE IT.

MEANWHILE,
I KEEP
GROWING
ENOUGH
FOR BOTH
OF US,
I SWEAR.

**ARE YOU
SERIOUS
?!**

*That
long?!*

**I'M
SERIOUS.**

'CUZ I WAS A
LITTLE OVER
FIVE FOOT SIX
WHEN I WAS IN
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL!

I CAN.



Speaking of sopping wet...

My house has a water sprite that gets everything wet...

Well, actually she's my mom...

She comes into my room holding the mail, it's drenched and wrinkled... You give her a magazine, it gets drenched and wrinkled... You show her a photograph, it gets drenched and wrinkled...

So okay, she's always doing some household chore or other that involves water, which is fine, but could she please wipe her hands off before holding things! When I tell her that, she feels bad and promises to mend her ways. So then I think it's okay, but when she walks into my room waving a postcard that just arrived in the mail for me, sure enough, it's drenched and wrinkled...

Your hands, Mom.
Wipe them, please.

"PLEASE. WIPE. YOUR. HANDS."

Do you understand?

Hamburgers in my house are served on sopping wet plates.

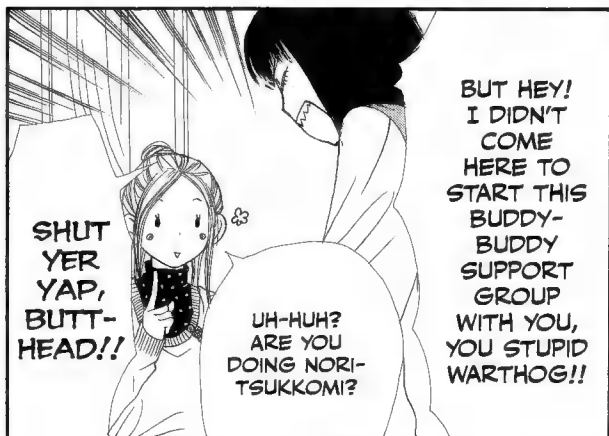
I live in Waterworld!



YEAH, LIKE, YOU SAY TWO WORDS AND THE TEACHER'S ON YOUR CASE, WHEN EVERYBODY ELSE IS TALKING A LOT MORE.

DIDN'T YOU HATE THAT? YOU TOTALLY STICK OUT LIKE A SORE THUMB, DON'T YOU!

YUP
YUP YUP,
ME TOO!



SHUT
YER
YAP,
BUTT-
HEAD!!

UH-HUH?
ARE YOU
DOING NORI-
TSUKKOMI?

BUT HEY!
I DIDN'T
COME
HERE TO
START THIS
BUDDY-
BUDDY
SUPPORT
GROUP
WITH YOU,
YOU STUPID
WARTHOG!!



BUT THEN HE STARTED GOING OUT WITH THAT TINY GIRL, SO I GAVE UP 'CUZ I KNEW I DIDN'T STAND A CHANCE WITH HIM AFTER ALL.

...ALL MY LIFE, I'VE BEEN BUSTING MY BUTT TO GET ATCHAN TO FALL FOR ME.

WHO CARES HOW TALL YOU WERE, ANYWAY?! THE POINT IS...



OH,
PARDON
ME.

**YOU
JUST
MADE
ME CALL
MYSELF
A TOTAL
WITCH!!**

HEY, WHO
ASKED YOU
TO BUTT IN,
ANYHOW?!
JUST SHUT
UP AND
LISTEN,
BIGMOUTH!!

EXACTLY,
SINCE I'M A
TOTAL
WITCH
MYSELF...

OH
YEAH,
YOU
MEAN
LIKE
YOUR-
SELF?

EXACTLY. AND
ON TOP OF
BEING SHORT
AND CUTE, SHE
TURNS OUT TO
BE REALLY NICE,
LIKE, FOR REAL.
I THOUGHT
SHE MIGHT BE
NASTY UNDER-
NEATH, BUT...

YOU SEE
HER AND
YOU THINK,
IF THAT'S HIS
TYPE, HE'LL
NEVER FALL
FOR SOMEONE
MY HEIGHT
IN A MILLION
YEARS. I KNOW,
I KNOW!

YOU
MEAN
THAT GIRL
MAYU,
RIGHT?
KANZAKI-
SAN? YEAH,
SHE'S
SUPER-
CUTE,
ISN'T
SHE?



URGH.

I'M
LIKE,
WHAT
IS
THIS?!

YOU'RE
BIG,
YOU'RE
STUPID
....!!

SO THEN,
WHEN HE
FINALLY
BREAKS UP
WITH HER
AFTER THE
LONGEST
TIME, HIS
NEXT GIRL-
FRIEND IS
YOU?!



LISTEN.

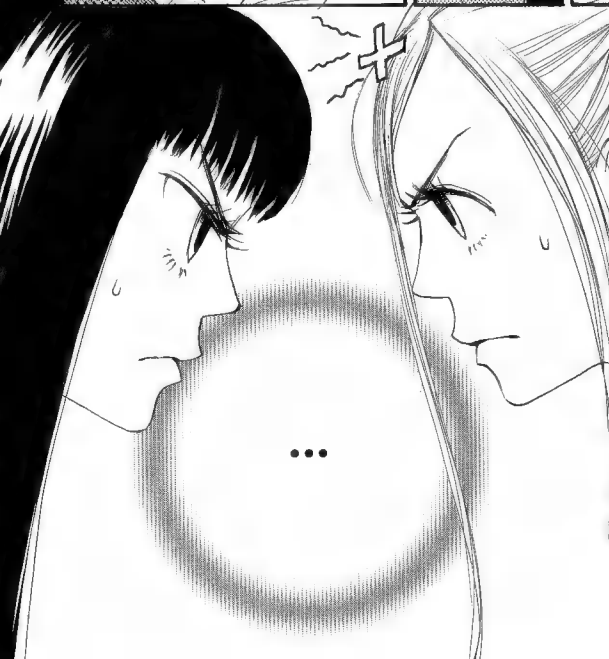
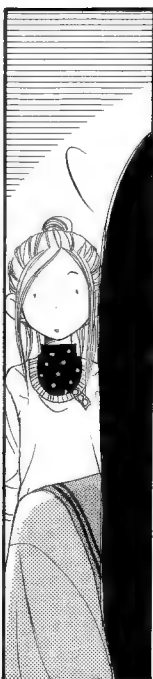
I JUST
KNOW
THERE IS
NO WAY
I WOULD
EVER
LOSE TO
YOU.





50 YEN IS ABOUT 43 CENTS









...
IT REALLY
IS LIKE
SHE'S A
COMPLETELY
DIFFERENT
PERSON.

I
COULD
NEVER
PULL
THAT
OFF.

*Haven't
measured
so I don't
know.*

*Have
you
grown
lately?*



I'M
GONNA
TAKE
KOIZUMI
HOME
FIRST,
SO.

HUH?
HOW
COME?!

WELL,
YOU GO
ON HOME,
MIMI. I'LL
SEE YOU
LATER.







...WELL,
JEEZ.

WHO
CARES
WHAT
I SEE
IN HER,
ANYWAY?



I JUST
DON'T GET
WHAT YOU
SEE IN HER,
THAT'S ALL.



FORGET
ABOUT IT,
MIMI.
IT'S GOT
NOTHING
TO DO
WITH YOU,
ANYWAY.

NO!

BUT I
WANNA
KNOW.

COME ON,
ATCHAN.
ANNOUNCE
IT!



YES
IT DOES
SO HAVE
SOME-
THING
TO DO
WITH
ME!!

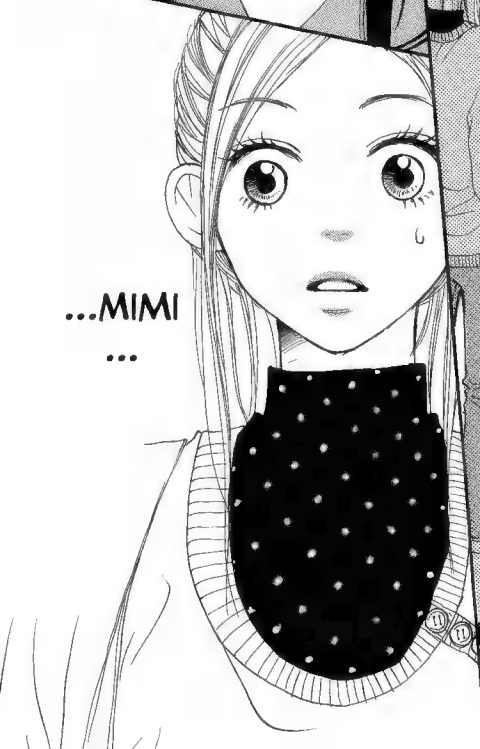


WHADDAYA
MEAN,
WHO
CARES?!

IT'S NOT
EXACTLY
THE KIND
OF THING
YOU MAKE
PUBLIC
ANNOUNCE-
MENTS
ABOUT,
OKAY?!



BECAUSE
I LOVE YOU
A THOUSAND
TIMES
MORE THAN
SHE DOES,
ATCHAN!!



...MIMI
...









OH
YEAH?
AND
HOW'S
THAT?



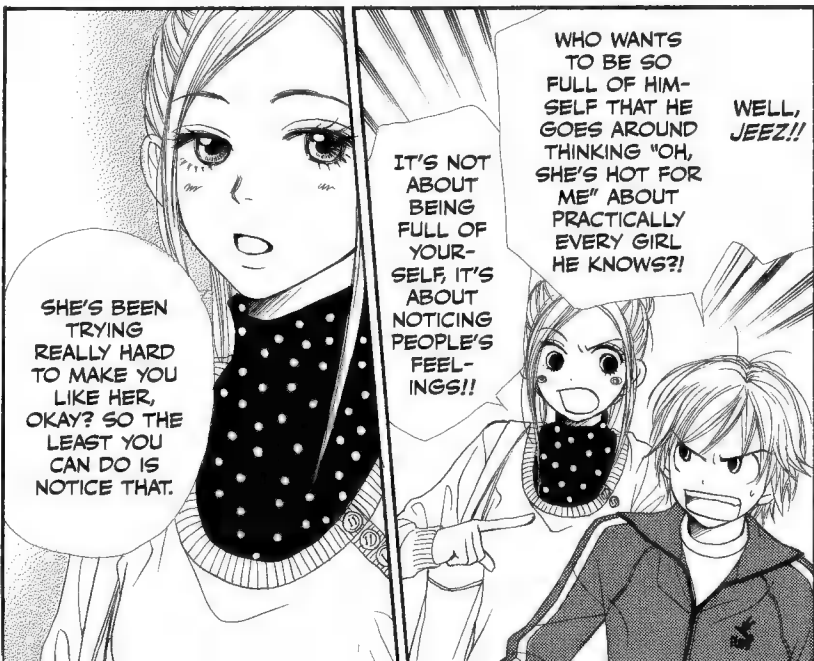
YOU KNEW
SHE HAD
THE HOTS
FOR ME,
KOIZUMI?

OH, FOR
CRYING OUT
LOUD...I
KNOW HOW
MIMI'S
FEELING
RIGHT NOW
SO WELL
IT **HURTS**.
I MEAN,
JEEZ!



...

SHE'S
BANGING
HER HEAD
AGAINST
THE WALL
IN DISBELIEF
AT HOW
TOTALLY
CLUELESS
YOU ARE.

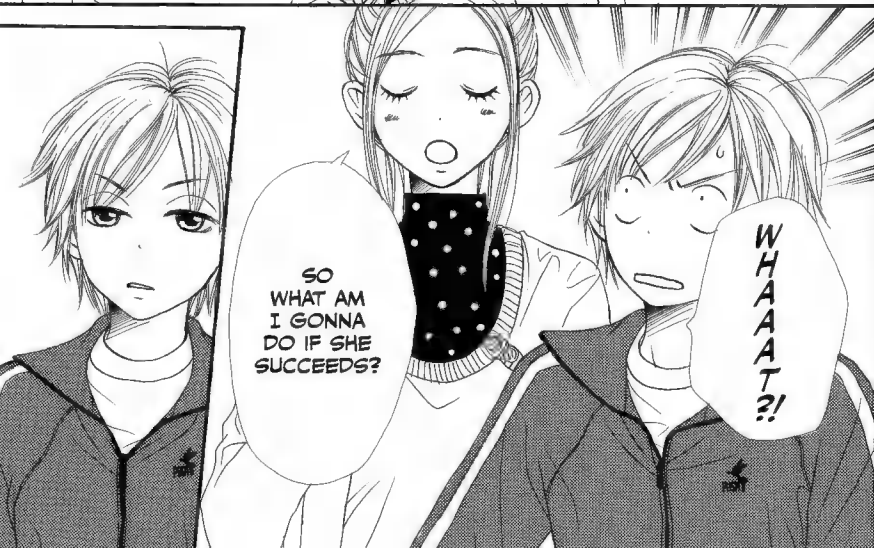
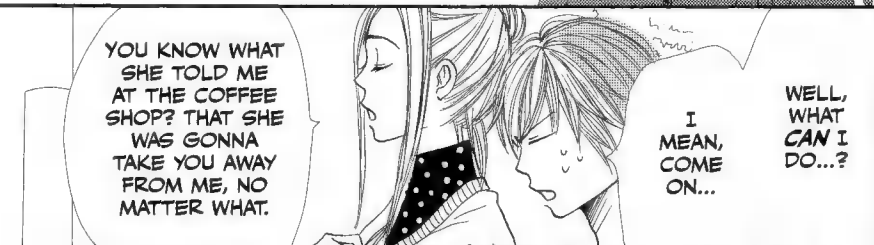


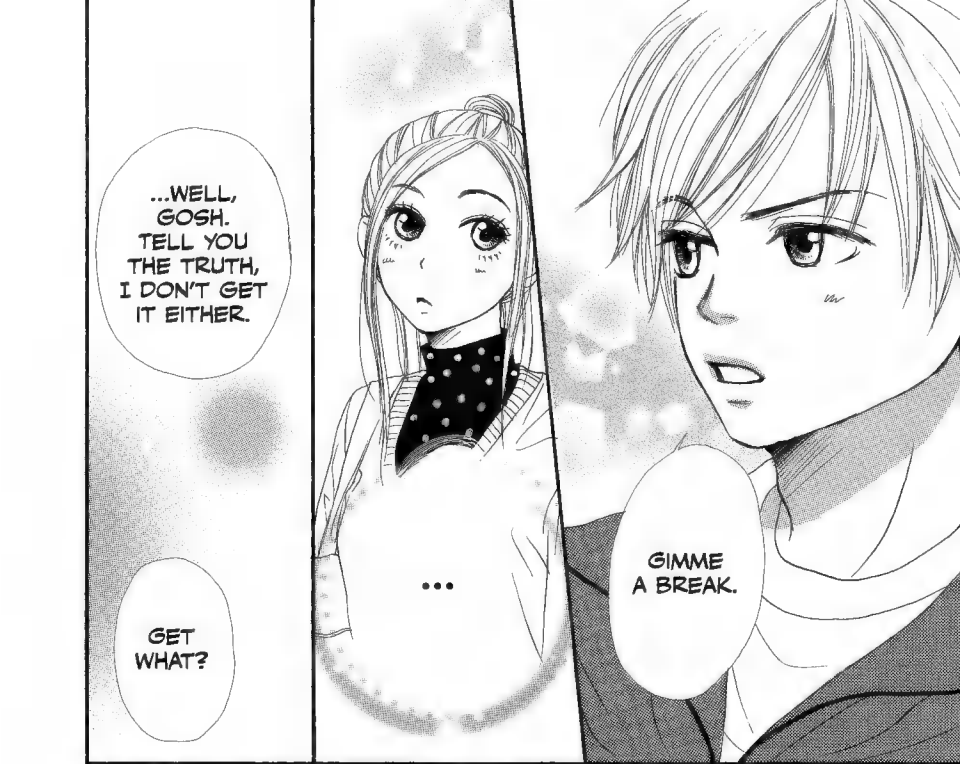
SHE'S BEEN
TRYING
REALLY HARD
TO MAKE YOU
LIKE HER,
OKAY? SO THE
LEAST YOU
CAN DO IS
NOTICE THAT.

IT'S NOT
ABOUT
BEING
FULL OF
YOUR-
SELF, IT'S
ABOUT
NOTICING
PEOPLE'S
FEEL-
INGS!!

WHO WANTS
TO BE SO
FULL OF HIM-
SELF THAT HE
GOES AROUND
THINKING "OH,
SHE'S HOT FOR
ME" ABOUT
PRACTICALLY
EVERY GIRL
HE KNOWS?!

WELL,
JEEZ!!





...WELL,
GOSH.
TELL YOU
THE TRUTH,
I DON'T GET
IT EITHER.

GET
WHAT?

...

GIMME
A BREAK.



I DON'T
REALLY
GET WHAT
YOU SEE
IN ME
EITHER.

I'M BIG,
I'M STUPID,
I'M NOT
GOOD FOR
ANYTHING...
SO WHY'RE
YOU GOING
OUT WITH
ME?

YOU KNOW,
WHAT MIMI
WAS TALKING
ABOUT
EARLIER.

I JUST
DON'T GET
WHAT YOU
SEE IN
HER.

WHY'RE
YOU
GOING
OUT
WITH
HER?



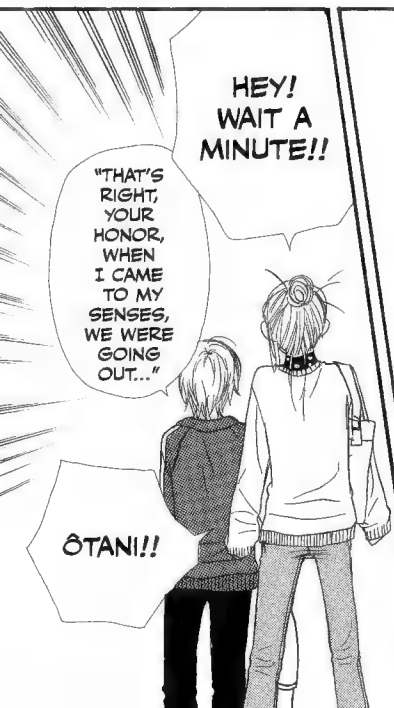
...WELL,
SORRY,
BUT...

I CAN'T
TELL YOU,
'CUZ I
DON'T
KNOW WHY
I'M GOING
OUT WITH
YOU
EITHER.

...IT KINDA
SCARES
ME WHEN
A TOTALLY
BEAUTIFUL
GIRL LIKE
MIMI...

AND
THAT'S
WHY...

...SAYS
SHE'S
GOING TO
GO ALL
OUT TO
TAKE YOU
AWAY
FROM ME.



HEY!
WAIT A
MINUTE!!

"THAT'S
RIGHT,
YOUR
HONOR,
WHEN
I CAME
TO MY
SENSES,
WE WERE
GOING
OUT..."

ÔTANI!!



OR MAYBE
IT'S WHAT
THEY CALL
"TEMPORARY
INSANITY"?



NOPE.
NOT A
CLUE.
WONDER
WHY...?

YOU
DON'T
KNOW
...?

IT JUST
HAPPENED?



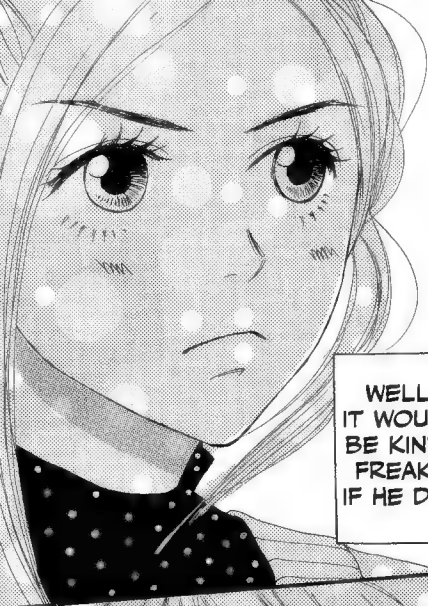
FINE!!
FORGET IT!!
I'M NEVER
ASKING YOU
AGAIN!!

...I
REALLY DO
WONDER
WHAT HE
LIKES
ABOUT ME.

...STILL,
THOUGH
...

HEY,
I WAS
JUST
KIDDING.
C'MON,
GET
ON THE
BACK.

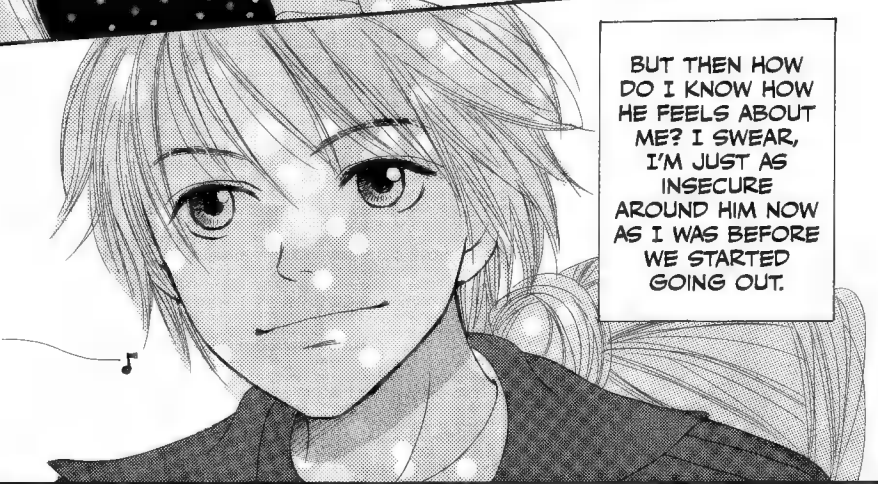
YOU
BETTER
BE KIDDING!!
I WOULD
THROTTLE
YOU IF YOU
WERE
SERIOUS!!



WELL,
IT WOULD
BE KINDA
FREAKY
IF HE DID.

...IT'S NOT
LIKE HE'S ALL
OVER ME ALL
THE TIME, OR
LIKE HE EVER
TELLS ME HE
LOVES ME OR
ANYTHING.

AND
EVEN
THOUGH
WE'RE
GOING
OUT
NOW...



BUT THEN HOW
DO I KNOW HOW
HE FEELS ABOUT
ME? I SWEAR,
I'M JUST AS
INSECURE
AROUND HIM NOW
AS I WAS BEFORE
WE STARTED
GOING OUT.

...BASICALLY...

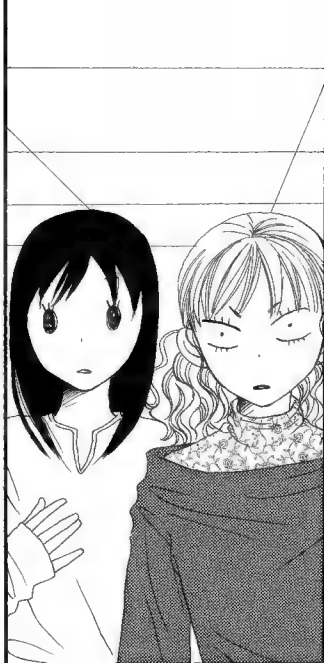
*Don't
swing
your
legs.*

HEY!
STOP
THAT!



ZWING

THAT
KINDA
TICKS
ME
OFF!!



I WANT
TO BE ONE
HUNDRED
PERCENT
POSITIVE
THAT HE
DEFINITELY
LOVES ME
FOR SURE...



HAAA-
AGH...



Wh-wh-wh-
what's the
matter,
Risa? Are
you okay?!



Like what,
you want him
to jump off
a building
for you or
something?!



I DON'T
KNOW...

OH.

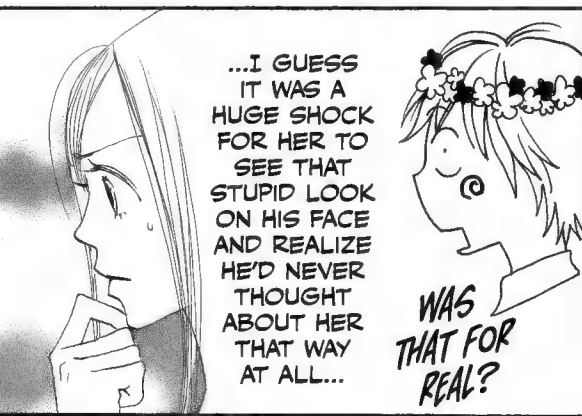
SO
WHAT
DID HE
DO?!

W
H
A
A
T
?!



YOU KNOW
THAT MODEL
GIRL WHO
LIVES NEXT
DOOR TO HIM?
SHE TOLD
ÔTANI SHE
LOVES HIM.

WHAT
IS IT? DID
SOMETHING
HAPPEN?





I'M NOT ROMEO,
I'M OTANI!!!
NOW JUST
LEAVE ME
ALONE!

...OH
GOSH.

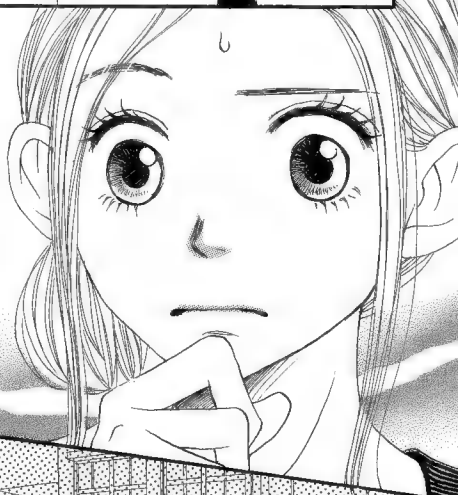


ROMEO,
ROMEO,
WHERE-
FORE
ART THOU
ROMEO?!

HUH?
WELL...
YEAH...
I GUESS...
I MEAN,
YEAH...

YOU WILL,
OF COURSE,
TELL HER
IN NO
UNCERTAIN
TERMS THAT
YOU ARE NOT
INTERESTED,
RIGHT?

POOR
MIMI.
WONDER
IF SHE'S
OKAY...



See you
tomorrow!




GUESS
I'LL STOP
BY THERE
AGAIN WHEN
I GET
HOME.

SO
HEY...
WHAT'RE
YOU
GOING
TO DO?



WHAT
ELSE
WOULD
I SAY?



AND IF SHE
COMES OUT TO
SEE YOU THIS
TIME, ARE YOU
REALLY GOING
TO TELL HER
THERE'S NO
WAY?



WELL....
GOSH...



MIMI!!

HEY!!



MIMI...?



HEY,
ISN'T
THAT...



MIMI-
CHAN...

FWAP



I
KNOW...

...
EXACTLY
WHAT
IT'S
LIKE.



DASH

COME
BACK
HERE...!

HUH?!

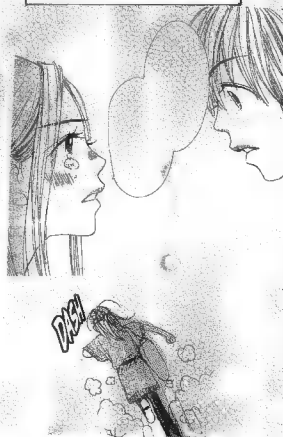
WAIT A
SEC...

WAIT,
ÔTANI.
LET **ME**
GO TALK
TO HER!

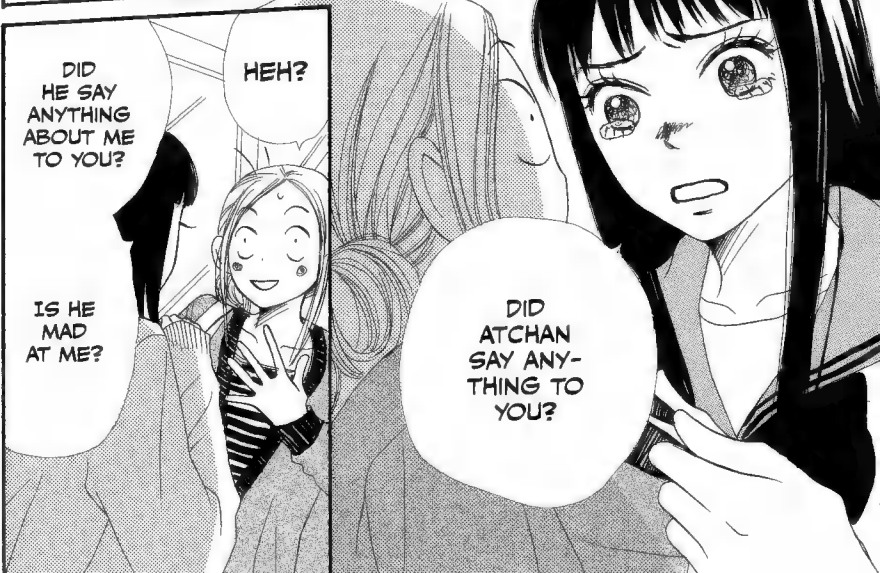
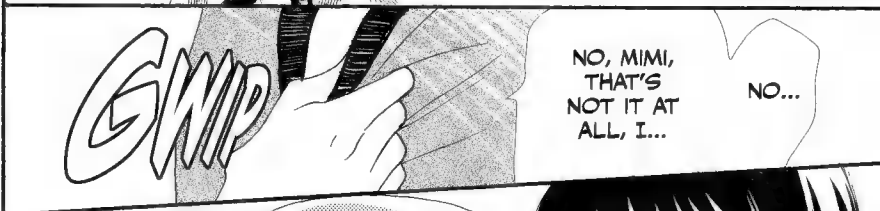
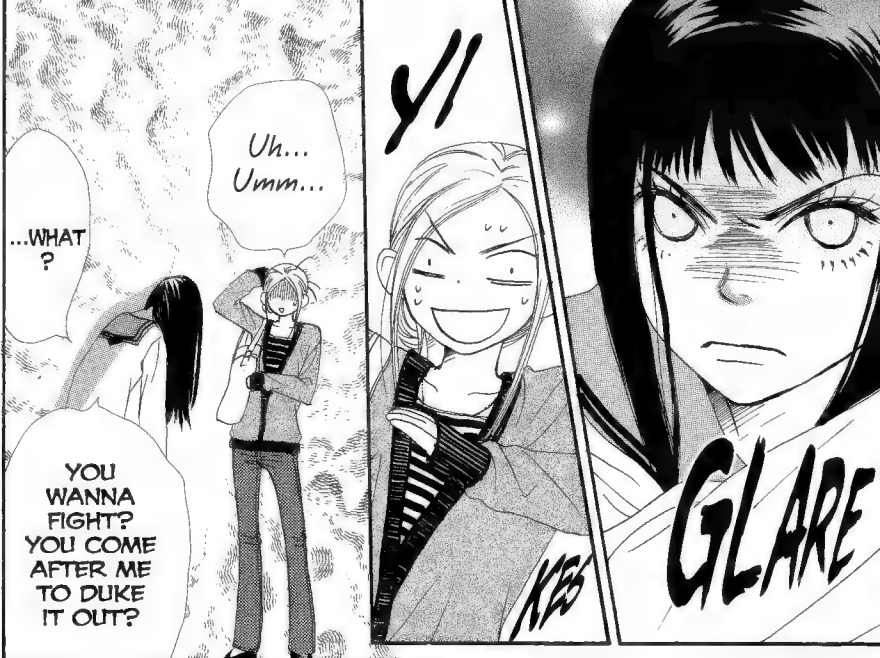
I'M
SORRY.

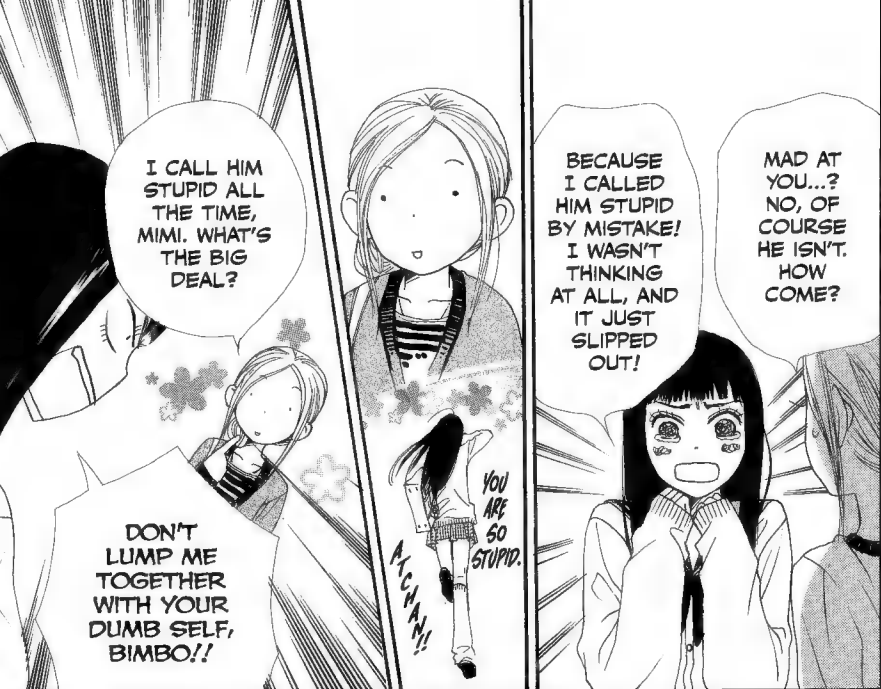
I TOTALLY
AVOIDED HIM,
BECAUSE
I WAS
SCARED TO
DEATH HE'D
REJECT ME.

I DIDN'T
WANT TO
SEE ÔTANI
EITHER,
AFTER
I TOLD
HIM HOW
I FELT.



UM...





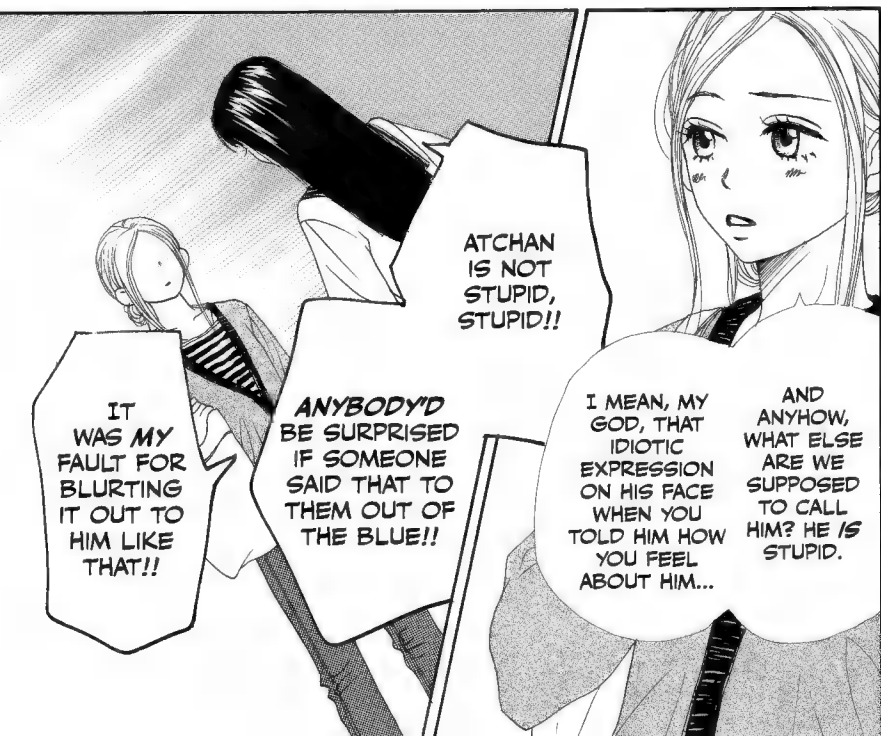
I CALL HIM
STUPID ALL
THE TIME,
MIMI. WHAT'S
THE BIG
DEAL?

DON'T
LUMP ME
TOGETHER
WITH YOUR
DUMB SELF,
BIMBO!!

BECAUSE
I CALLED
HIM STUPID
BY MISTAKE!
I WASN'T
THINKING
AT ALL, AND
IT JUST
SLIPPED
OUT!

MAD AT
YOU...?
NO, OF
COURSE
HE ISN'T.
HOW
COME?

YOU
ARE
SO
STUPID.
ATCHAN!!



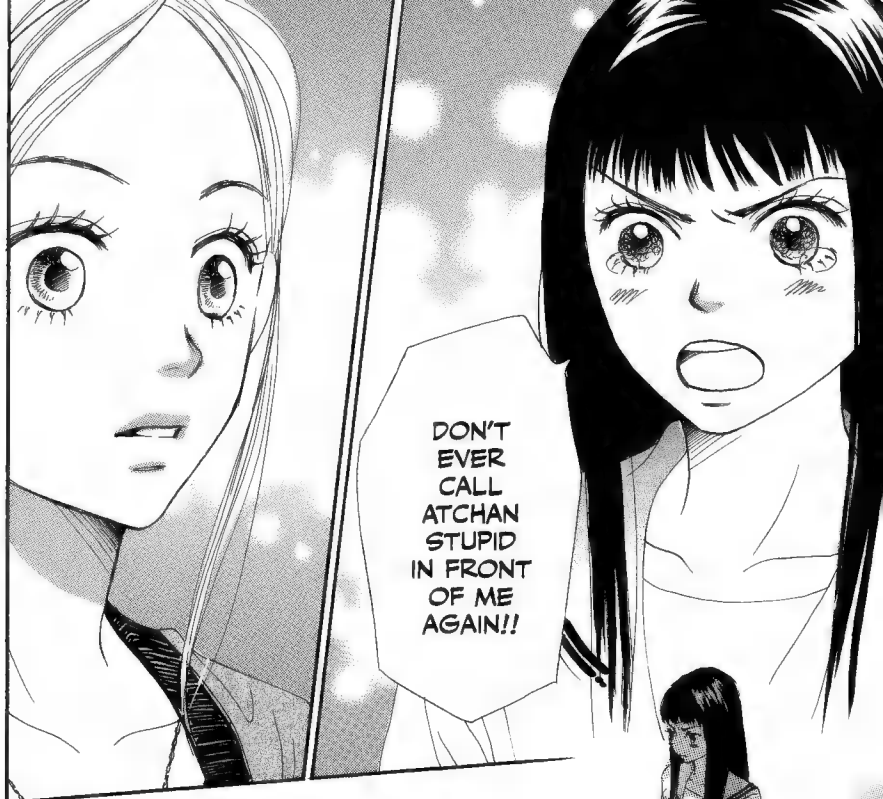
IT
WAS MY
FAULT FOR
BLURTING
IT OUT TO
HIM LIKE
THAT!!

ANYBODY'D
BE SURPRISED
IF SOMEONE
SAID THAT TO
THEM OUT OF
THE BLUE!!

ATCHAN
IS NOT
STUPID,
STUPID!!

I MEAN, MY
GOD, THAT
IDIOTIC
EXPRESSION
ON HIS FACE
WHEN YOU
TOLD HIM HOW
YOU FEEL
ABOUT HIM...

AND
ANYHOW,
WHAT ELSE
ARE WE
SUPPOSED
TO CALL
HIM? HE IS
STUPID.



DON'T
EVER
CALL
ATCHAN
STUPID
IN FRONT
OF ME
AGAIN!!



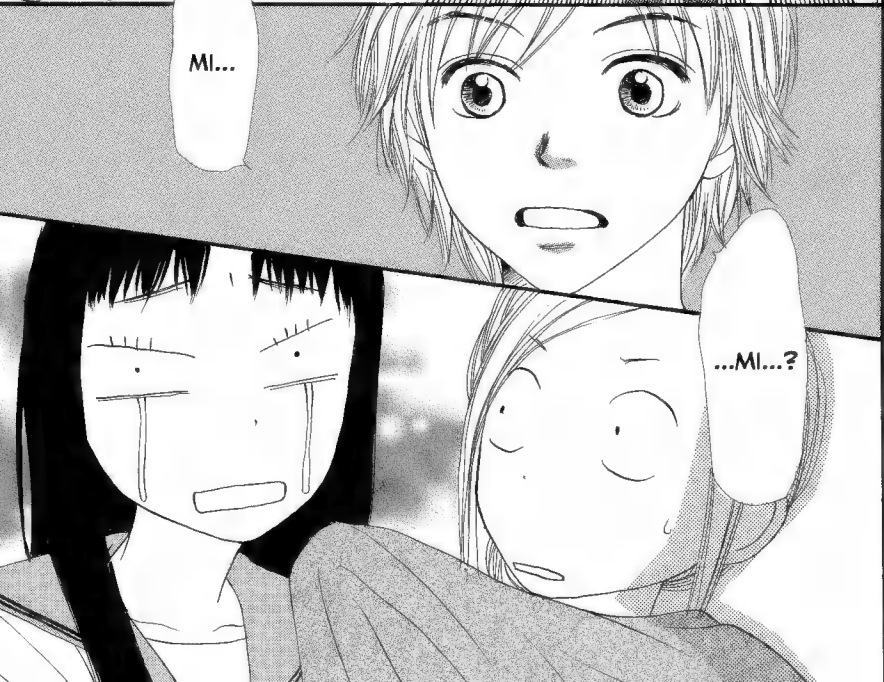
NO, DON'T
EVER CALL
HIM STUPID
AGAIN,
PERIOD!!
WHAT'S YOUR
PROBLEM?!

HUH?

THIS GIRL
REALLY
LOVES
ÔTANI A
LOT.



...WOW.







CHAPTER 32





I WAS
AFRAID
OF
THAT...

NO. I
GO OVER
THERE,
I CALL
HER UP,
SHE WON'T
TALK
TO ME.

...NOW
THAT
YOU'VE
SEEN
WHAT
SHE'S
REALLY
LIKE.

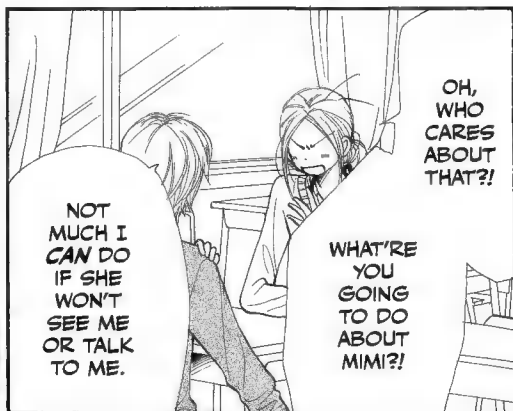
SHE MUST
BE SO
DEPRESSED...

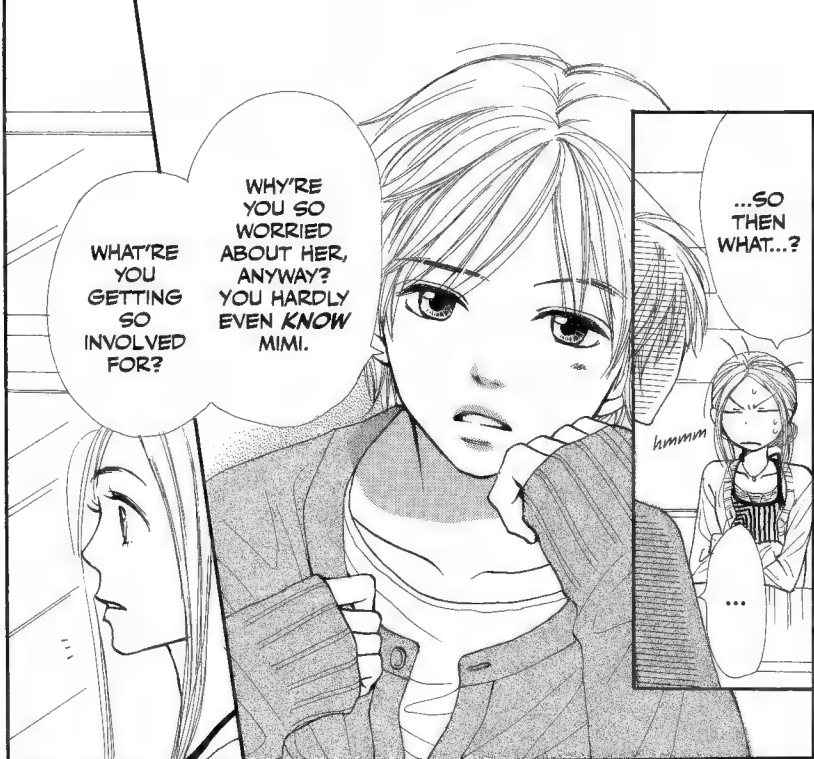
WELL,
I DON'T
KNOW
ABOUT
"FAKE"...

THIS MIMI

WHADDAYA
MEAN,
"REALLY
LIKE"?

YOU
SAYING
THE MIMI
I KNOW
IS A BIG
FAKE?





BUT
STILL...

I KNOW
EXACTLY
WHAT SHE'S
GOING
THROUGH.

WITH
THAT
GIRL
MIMI.

TO
WHO?

IT'S JUST
THAT I CAN
TOTALLY
RELATE
TO HER...

THAT'S
ACTUALLY
THE
BIGGEST
WORRY
OF ALL.

HE'S
THE MOST
CLUELESS
GUY IN ALL OF
JAPAN WHEN
IT COMES
TO GIRLS'
FEELINGS.

JUST
STOP
WORRYING
ABOUT
HER. LET
OTANI
TAKE CARE
OF IT.

LOOK, YOU'D
FEEL A LOT
WORSE THAN
THAT IF HE
DIDN'T GIVE
HER THE
"SORRY, BUT"
SPIEL, RISA.

*Well,
that's
just too
bad.*

PLUS, WHEN
I THINK HOW
MUCH **WORSE**
SHE'LL FEEL
AFTER HE
GIVES HER
THE "SORRY,
BUT" SPIEL,
IT JUST
KILLS ME.



POOR MIMI...



HOPE **SHE** ISN'T SPREAD OUT OVER THE COALS AT THIS VERY MOMENT...

HEY.



HEH?!

I'M
SPITTIN'
MAD.
BECAUSE
THIS IS
ALL YOUR
STUPID
FAULT,
PEABRAIN.



YOU
WANT ME
TO BE
BUMMED
OUT,
DON'T YOU,
DOGFACE?
WELL,
I'M NOT.

Mimi-
chan...
Umm...
Are
you
okay?

Well, you
know...
I thought
you might
be kinda
bumming
after what
happened...

MEANING
WHAT?



FOOLED
YOU...



HEY!!

IT'S
OTANI!!

WHAT
?!

DON'T LIE
TO ME,
SCUM!!
YOU'RE
GONNA
PAY FOR
THIS!!

No of
course
not...

YOU
PLANNED
THAT, DIDN'T
YOU?! YOU
MADE ME
LOSE IT ON
PURPOSE
AND THEN
CALLED HIM
SO HE'D SEE
IT, DIDN'T
YOU?!

MY WHOLE
LIFE I'VE
BEEN SWEET
IN FRONT OF
HIM, AND THEN
YOU COME
ALONG AND
I'M BUSTED!!
ALL THAT
HARD WORK
DOWN THE
DRAIN!!

Uh...



WHY
DON'T
WE GET
SOME-
THING TO
DRINK
SOME-
WHERE?
ON ME!

UH, MAYBE
THIS ISN'T
A GOOD
PLACE
FOR THIS.

WANT ME
TO COME
SHAVE OFF
YOUR EYE-
BROWS
WHILE
YOU'RE
ASLEEP?!
HUH?!

...DON'T
YOU
MESS
WITH ME,
YOU
STUPID
COW.

NOW BIG
SISTER RISA
CAN CHEER
POOR
LITTLE MIMI
UP A BIT.

THERE!

I HAVE
MONEY
TODAY!!
I DO!!

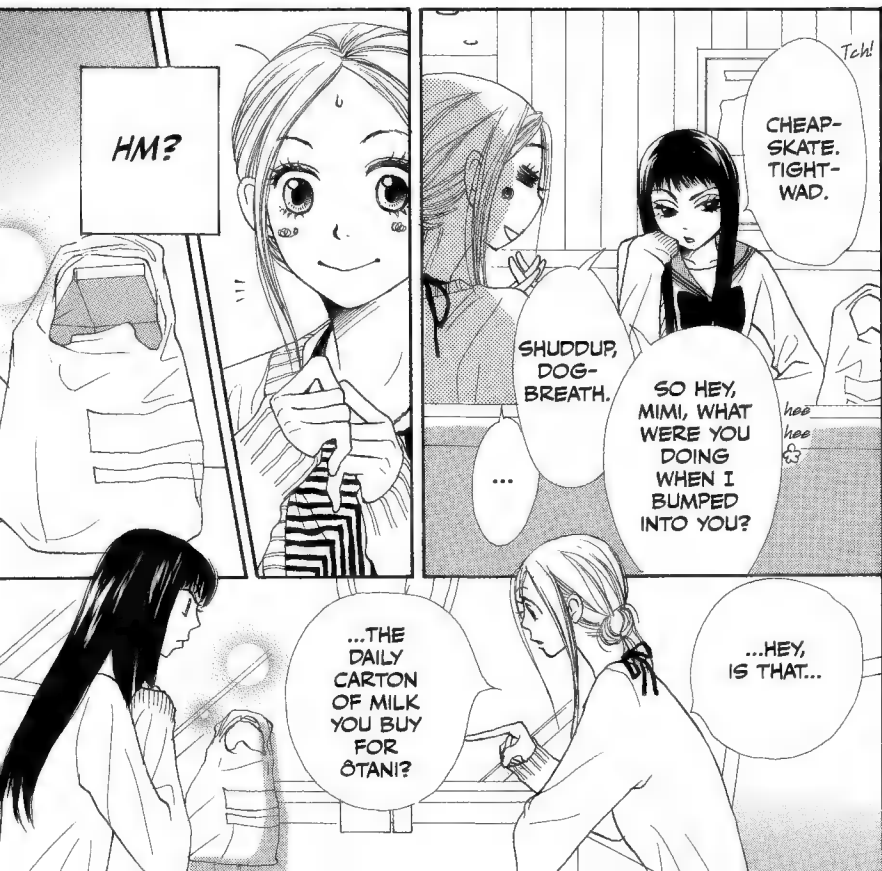
YEAH,
RIGHT.
ON YOU,
MIZ FIFTY
YEN.



IGNORE
THAT, PLEASE!
WE'LL HAVE
TWO FREE-
REFILL SOFT
DRINKS.

MEDIUM-
RARE.
WITH A
SALAD,
RICE AND
BLACK
TEA.

I'LL
HAVE
A ONE-
POUND
SLAB
OF YOUR
BEST
SIRLOIN
STEAK.



HM?

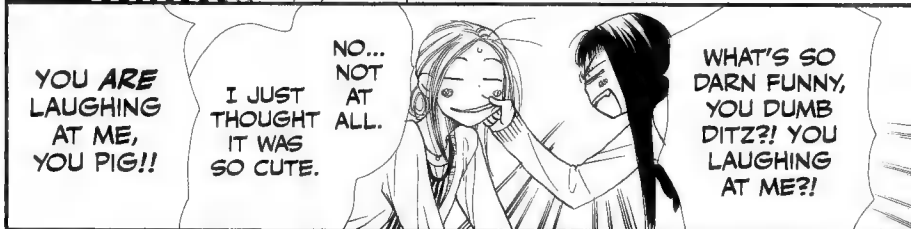
SHUDDUP,
DOG-
BREATH.

Tch!
CHEAP-
SKATE.
TIGHT-
WAD.

SO HEY,
MIMI, WHAT
WERE YOU
DOING
WHEN I
BUMPED
INTO YOU?

...THE
DAILY
CARTON
OF MILK
YOU BUY
FOR
OTANI?

...HEY,
IS THAT...



**YOU ARE
LAUGHING
AT ME,
YOU PIG!!**

**I JUST
THOUGHT
IT WAS
SO CUTE.**

**NO...
NOT
AT
ALL.**

**WHAT'S SO
DARN FUNNY,
YOU DUMB
DITZ?! YOU
LAUGHING
AT ME?!**



**IF YOU
WEREN'T
AROUND,
I'D
NEVER
HAVE...**

**IF YOU
WEREN'T
AROUND, I
COULD'VE
KEPT UP THE
SWEETIE-PIE
ACT FOR AS
LONG AS I
WANTED!!**

**LOOK,
IT ALL
STARTED
GOING
SCREWY
WHEN YOU
SHOWED
UP!! THIS IS
ALL YOUR
FAULT!!**



THAT
WAS SO
STUPID
AND
HUMILIAT-
ING...

BLURTING
IT OUT
LIKE
THAT...

...MIMI-
CHAN...

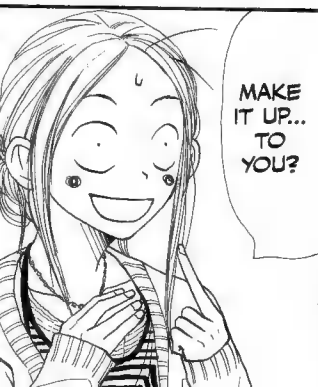


...WHAT?

...I'D
NEVER
HAVE
TOLD
ATCHAN
I LOVE
HIM IN
THAT
DORKY
WAY...



WHAT'RE
YOU
GONNA
DO
ABOUT
IT?!
MAKE IT
UP TO
ME!!



MAKE
IT UP...
TO
YOU?



WHAT
CAN I DO
TO MAKE
HER FEEL
BETTER...?



I LOVE YOU
A THOUSAND
TIMES MORE
THAN SHE
DOES,
ATCHAN!!

...



SO THE
LEAST
YOU CAN
DO IS
MAKE UP
FOR IT,
RIGHT?!



YEAH. BY
LETTING
ME HAVE
ATCHAN!!



...MIMI...



I DON'T
KNOW WHAT
TO DO
ANYMORE!
I CAN'T EVEN
FACE HIM
ANYMORE!!

BUT...
I CAN'T...

WELL,
JEEZ!
IT'S MY
WHOLE
LIFE,
OKAY?!
DON'T
YOU FEEL
SORRY
FOR ME?!



BUT...

EVEN
SO...

LET HER
HAVE
HIM...?

...I REALLY
DON'T WANT
MIMI TO FEEL
HOW I FELT
AFTER ÔTANI
TURNED ME
DOWN.

I'M
SORRY.



I
JUST
CAN'T
DO
THAT.

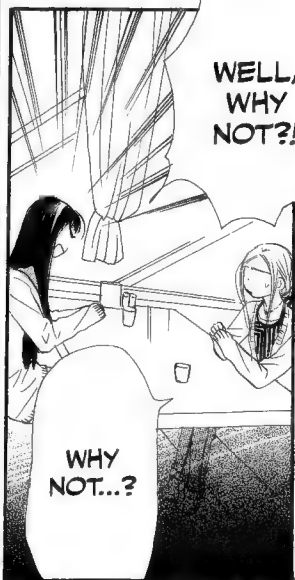


LET
HER
HAVE
ÔTANI
...?

...LISTEN,
MIMI.



BECAUSE
I REALLY
LOVE
ÔTANI
TOO.



WELL,
WHY
NOT?!

WHY
NOT...?



I MEAN,
YOU SAID
YOU WERE
GOING TO
TAKE HIM
AWAY FROM
ME! WHY
SHOULD
I JUST
GIVE HIM
TO YOU?!

LOOK,
IF YOU
LOVE HIM
SO MUCH,
TELL HIM
THAT
AGAIN!! NOT
BLURTING
IT OUT, BUT
PROPERLY!!



NO...

I LOVE
HIM
JUST AS
MUCH!!

WELL,
I LOVE
HIM
MORE
THAN
YOU
DO!!

NO,
I LOVE
HIM
MORE!!

NO,
I LOVE
HIM
MORE!!



I GOT
HER ALL
PUMPED
UP ABOUT
STEALING
HIM FROM
ME AGAIN.

...DARN
IT.

I CAN'T
CANCEL THAT
ORDER...
SO WILL YOU
STAY AND
HAVE YOUR
DRINK?

SHLRRRRP

SHE'S
GONNA
HAVE TO
FIGHT
ME,
TOOTH
AND
NAIL!!

HUNH?!

WELL,
FINE.

IF SHE'S
GOING AFTER
HIM FOR REAL,
THEN I SURE
DON'T PLAN
TO HAND HIM
OVER JUST
LIKE THAT.



WELL,
THE REASON
STUFF LIKE THIS
HAPPENS IS *YOU*
DIDN'T SET HER
STRAIGHT
RIGHT AWAY!

OF
ALL THE
DUMB
THINGS...



WELL,
GOSH! SHE
ACTUALLY
DEMANDED
THAT I LET
HER HAVE
YOU!!

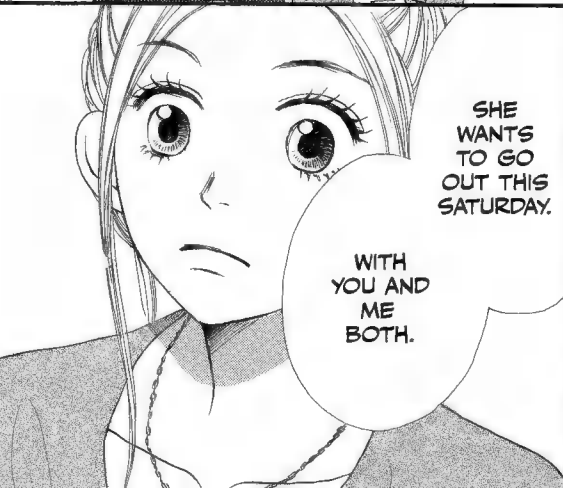
SO
THAT'S
WHY SHE
SHOWED
UP THIS
MORNING
WITH TEN
CARTONS
OF MILK!!

WHAT DID
YOU HAVE
TO STIR
THINGS UP
LIKE THAT
FOR?!



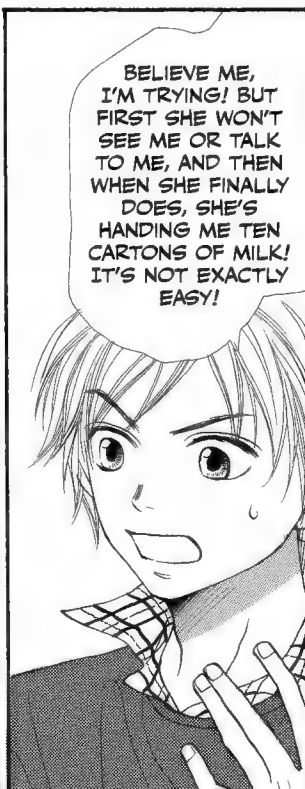
OH
YEAH.
SHE
DID.

DID SHE
SAY ANY-
THING TO
YOU THIS
MORNING?



SHE
WANTS
TO GO
OUT THIS
SATURDAY.

WITH
YOU AND
ME
BOTH.



BELIEVE ME,
I'M TRYING! BUT
FIRST SHE WON'T
SEE ME OR TALK
TO ME, AND THEN
WHEN SHE FINALLY
DOES, SHE'S
HANDING ME TEN
CARTONS OF MILK!
IT'S NOT EXACTLY
EASY!



SHE
THROWS
IT DOWN,
YOU
GOTTA
TAKE IT
UP!

RISA!
THAT'S A
GAUNTLET
IF THERE
EVER WAS
ONE!



I SAID
NO WAY, BUT
SHE WOULDN'T
LISTEN. SAID
SHE'D TALK
TO YOU ABOUT
IT HERSELF
IF I DON'T.

...THE
THREE
OF US?

...HUH?



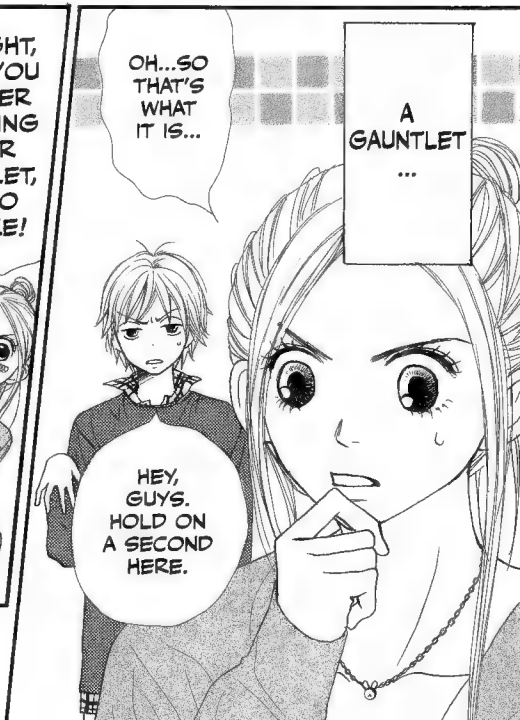
COME
ON, YOU
GUYS,
GET A
GRIP...

ALL RIGHT,
ÔTANI! YOU
TELL HER
I'M TAKING
UP HER
GAUNTLET,
AND NO
MISTAKE!

THAT'S
RIGHT,
RISA!
YOU GO,
GIRL!!

ÔTANI'S
LOVE
IS MINE
AND
MINE
ALONE!!

H-
HEY...



OH...SO
THAT'S
WHAT
IT IS...

A
GAUNTLET
...

HEY,
GUYS.
HOLD ON
A SECOND
HERE.



...I
CLAWED
MY WAY UP
HERE AFTER
GETTING
REJECTED
BY HIM
ONCE.

NOT TO
MENTION
...

WELL,
I LOVE
HIM
MORE
THAN
YOU
DO!!

...I
DON'T
THINK
SO,
MIMI.



GO,
RISA!!
WE'RE
ON
YOUR
SIDE!!

GO,
RISA!!
VICTORY
SHALL
BE
YOURS!!

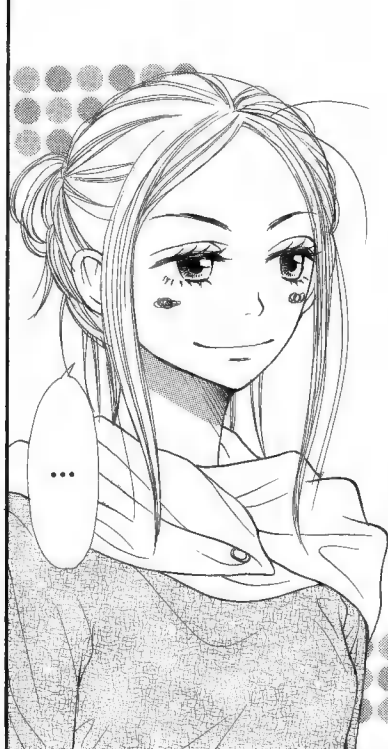
WILL
YOU
GUYS
JUST
HOLD
ON?!

JUST
WATCH
ME, MY
FRIENDS
!!

THERE
IS NO
WAY I'M
LOSING
TO
YOU!!

twant

*clorp
clorp*



I'LL SHOW YOU
WHICH OF US
REALLY LOVES
ATCHAN MOST,
SO THERE.
JUST WATCH ME.



OKAY,
ATCHAN,
NOW BE
QUIET FOR A
SEC!

LOOK,
MIMI,
WILL YOU
JUST...



OH,
COME
ON,
WHAT'S
WRONG
WITH
IT?

I SAID,
GET OFF
OF ME!!
LEAVE ME
ALONE!

HERE
SHE IS.
THE
ENEMY!





Well, I guess this is where I say good-bye.

This volume's bonus pages were originally a supplement that came with that month's issue of *Bessatsu Margaret*. All kinds of people helped to make it a really great supplement, so we've reproduced its pages virtually as-is for you here. Heh heh!

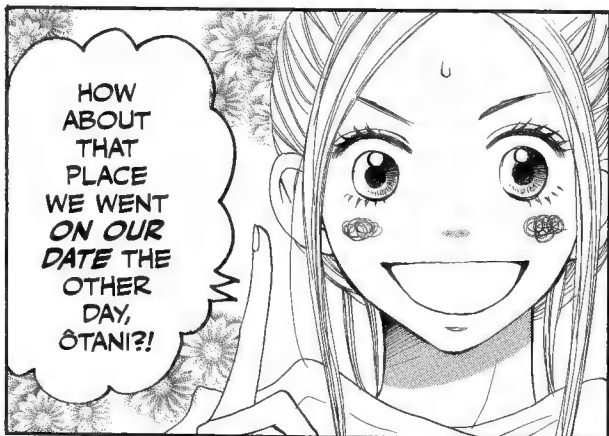
Oh, and thank you everybody for all of your letters. Emails that get sent to the *Bessatsu Margaret* homepage get printed out like this



and sent to me by post, so I get to read all of them. A lot of people ask for ■ postal address in their emails, so here it is:

Aya Nakahara
c/o Shojo Beat
295 Bay St.
San Francisco, CA 94133

Thank you
And see you again!!



**RISA
LOVES
ATCHAN
MORE
THAN MIMI
DOES, SO
THERE!!**

KLUTCH



**I...
AM NOT
LOSING
TO THIS
OBNOX-
IOUS
MIDDLE-
SCHOOLER!**

Gwp

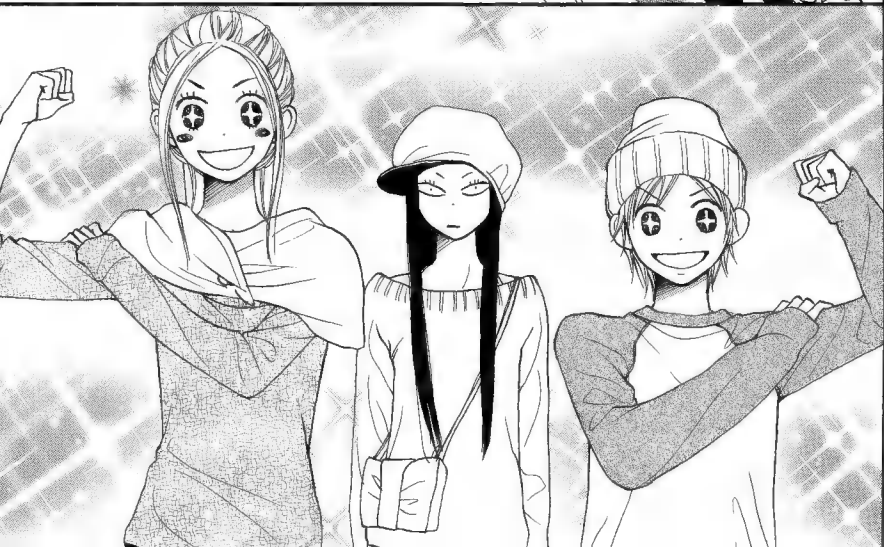
PFFFF

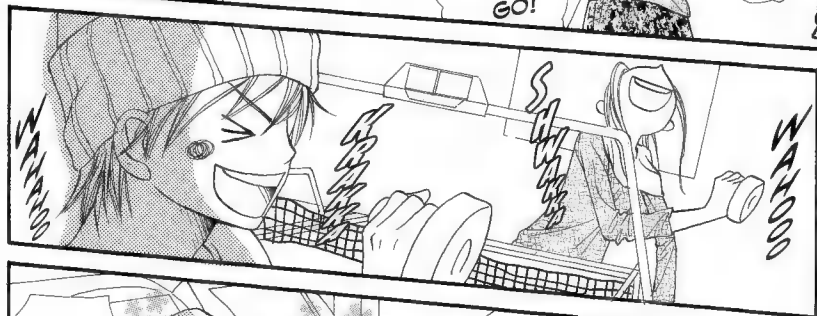
**MUST'VE
BEEN A
GREAT
DATE IF HE
DOESN'T
WANT TO
HEAR
ABOUT IT!**

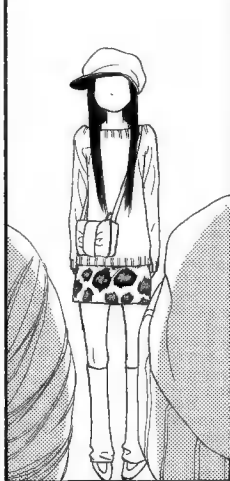
**WILL
YOU TWO
JUST CUT
IT OUT?!
LAY OFF
OF ME!!**

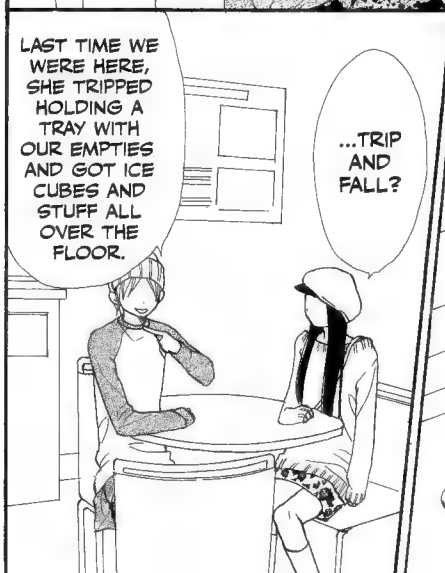
PAKOOH

PAKOOH











WHAT?

...WHAT'S
SO FUNNY
ABOUT
TRIPPING
AND
MAKING A
BIG MESS?
IT'S
PATHETIC.



WHAT
A DORK,
RIGHT?



...ER.

I
LOOKED
GOOFY?

koff

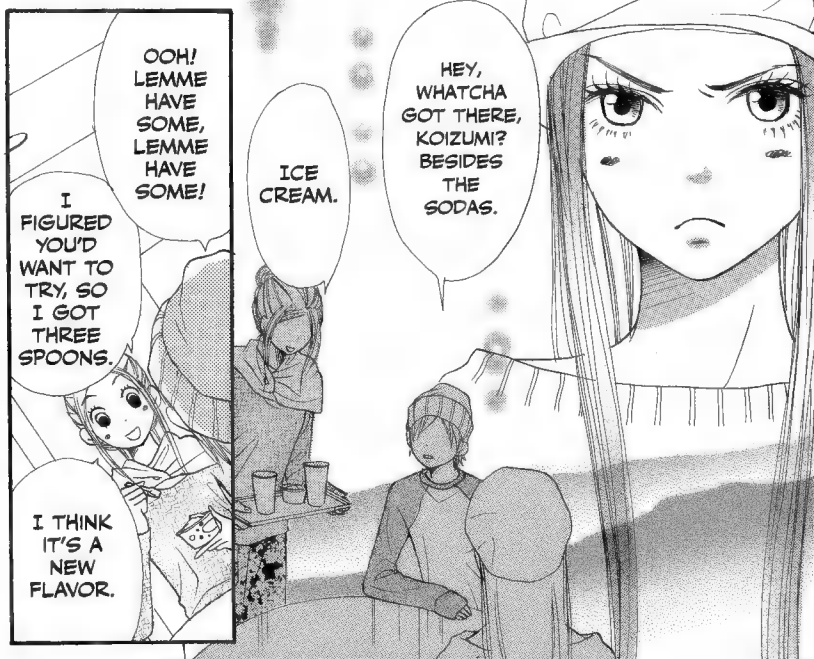
YEAH.
YOU
LOOKED
REALLY
DUMB.

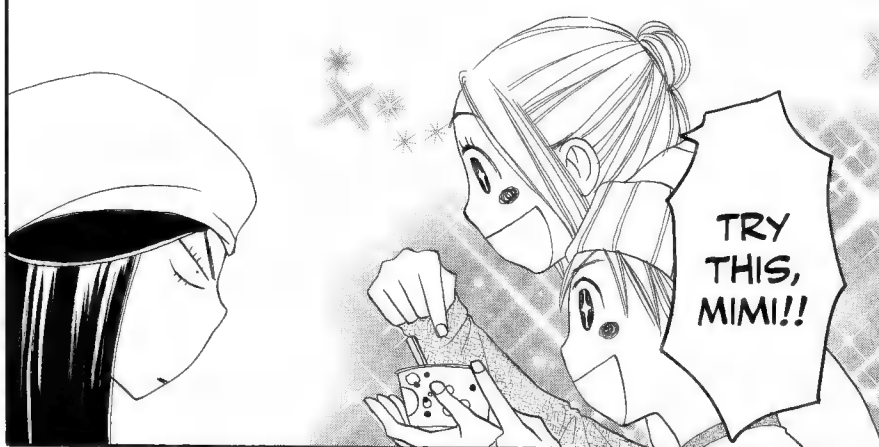


THAT GOOFY
SMILE ON
YOUR FACE
JUST NOW,
ATCHAN. I'VE
NEVER SEEN
YOU LOOK
LIKE THAT
BEFORE.



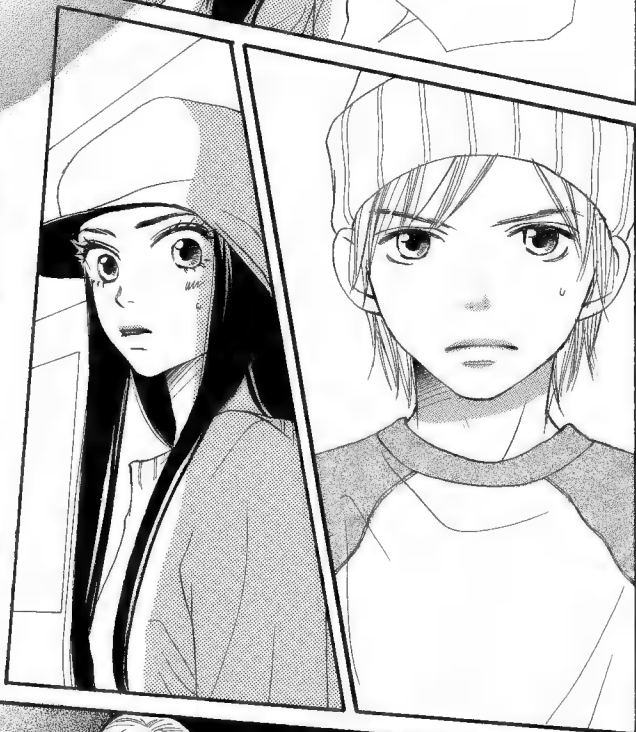








WAIT A
MINUTE,
MIMI!!



!
ÔTANI...
IS HE
GOING
TO...



...IF I DON'T
TELL YOU
THIS NOW,
YOU'LL GIVE
ME THE
RUNAROUND
AGAIN AND
I'LL NEVER
BE ABLE TO
TELL YOU.







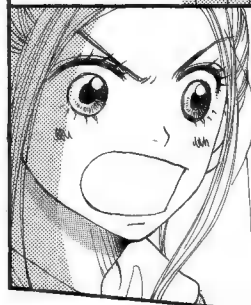
YOU'RE
JUST ALL
TALK AND
NO WALK!
IN FACT,
ALL YOU
DO IS
TALK AND
RUN!!

WEREN'T
YOU
TELLING
ME YOU
LOVE
OTANI
MORE
THAN
I DO?!
HUH?!

WHAT
HAPPENED
TO ALL
THAT FIGHT
YOU HAD
IN YOU?!

WHA...!
HEY...!

WHADJA
DO THAT
FOR?!



I DO
KNOW!!
BECAUSE
WAY BEFORE
I WAS HIS
GIRLFRIEND,
I TOLD HIM
I LOVED HIM
AND HE
JILTED ME!!

HOW WOULD
YOU KNOW
WHAT IT'S LIKE?
YOU'RE HIS
GIRLFRIEND!
YOU DON'T
KNOW
HOW MUCH
IT HURTS
TO HEAR...



HE SAID SORRY,
BUT HE COULDN'T
GO OUT WITH ME
OR THINK OF ME
THAT WAY. BUT I
COULDN'T GET
OVER HIM, SO I
KEPT TRYING!

...WHAT?

I MEAN,
THE WAY HE
TREATS ME,
I DON'T EVEN
KNOW IF HE
LOVES ME IN
THE FIRST
PLACE!

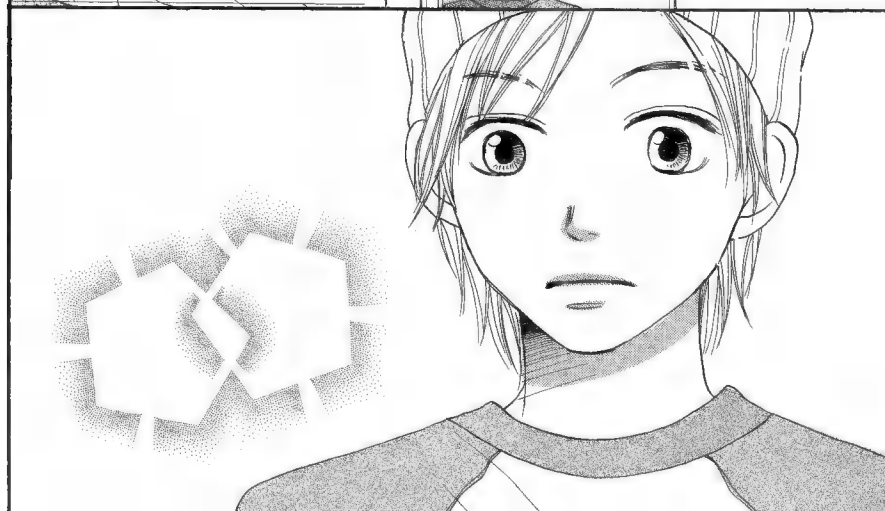
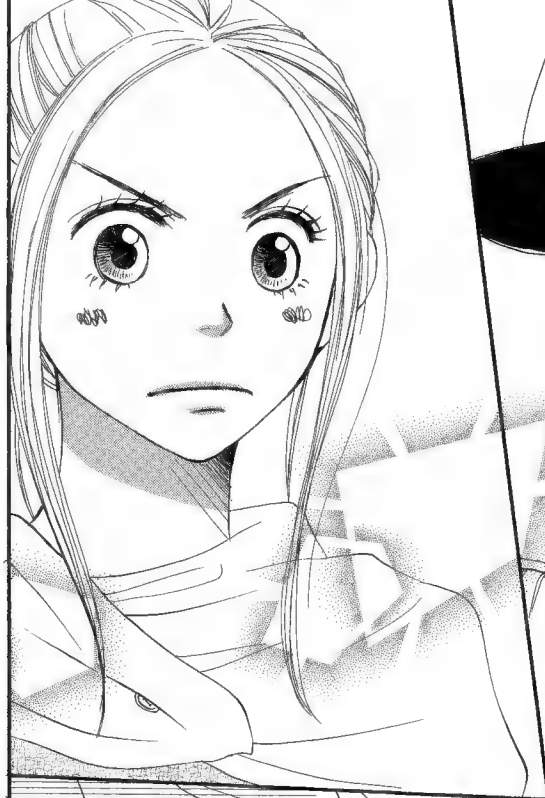
YES WAY. AND NOW
THAT WE'RE FINALLY
GOING OUT? ALL HE
DOES IS CALL ME
STUPID AND GROSS
AND STUFF LIKE THAT!
NOT TO MENTION,
WHEN I ASKED HIM
WHY HE'S GOING OUT
WITH ME, HE SAID IT
"JUST HAPPENED,"
OKAY?!

UH...!

...NO
WAY.

BUT YOU
KNOW WHAT?
I DON'T CARE!
**BECAUSE
I'M TOTALLY
NUTS ABOUT
HIM, AND
JUST BEING
WITH HIM
IS ENOUGH
FOR ME!!**

WHAT
THE
HECK'RE
YOU...

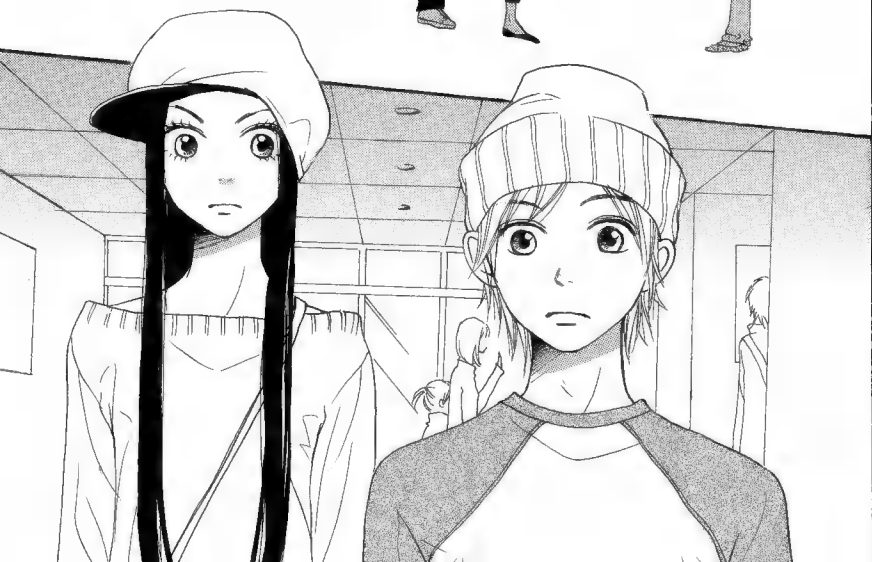
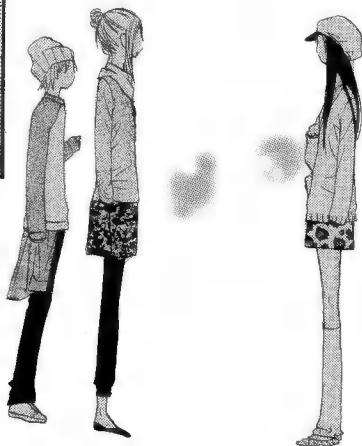




HMPH

...WHO
RUNS AWAY
FROM HIM
BECAUSE
SHE CAN'T
FACE
REJECTION!

I'M NOT
HANDING
OTANI
OVER TO
ANYBODY.
ESPECIALLY
NOT TO
A TOTAL
WUSS...

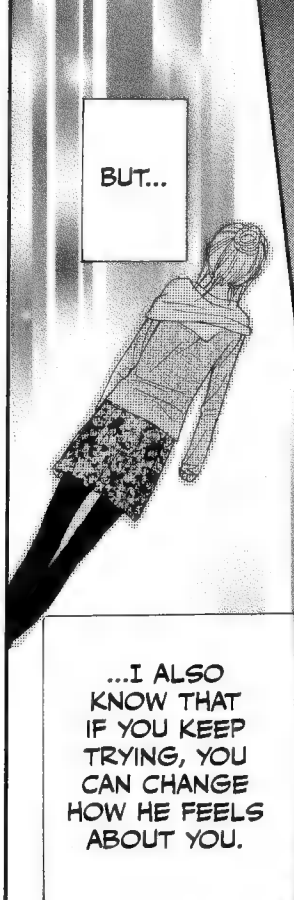






SHE'S
REALLY...

...KINDA
DIFFERENT,
ISN'T
SHE...



BUT...

...I ALSO
KNOW THAT
IF YOU KEEP
TRYING, YOU
CAN CHANGE
HOW HE FEELS
ABOUT YOU.



I KNOW
HOW HARD
IT IS TO
HAVE THE
GUY YOU
LIKE TURN
YOU
DOWN.



...HEY,
ATCHAN?

DO
YOU
LOVE
HER?



YEAH,
SHE'S
PRETTY
DIFFERENT,
ALL RIGHT.

NEVER
A DULL
MOMENT
AROUND
HER, THAT'S
FOR SURE.



I'M
NUTS
ABOUT
HER.



MAYBE
NOT!

...WELL, THEN
OBVIOUSLY
I DON'T
STAND A
CHANCE WITH
YOU. 'CUZ
THERE'S NO
WAY I COULD
EVER BE
THAT STUPID!

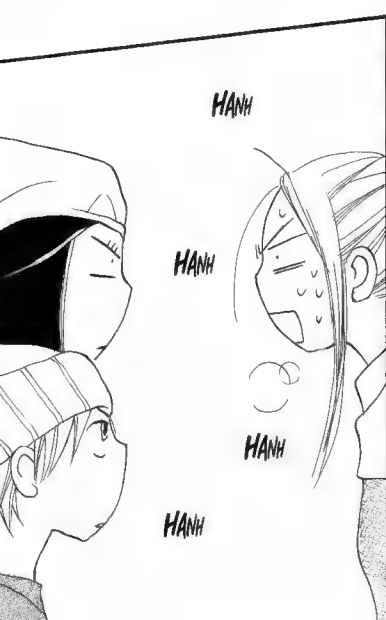




MIMI!
MIMI-
CHAN!!

NO
WAY!!
ARE YOU
KIDDING
ME?!
NOT MY
STYLE!!

WHY DON'T
YOU EVER
TELL HER YOU
LOVE HER,
THOUGH?
YOU SHOULD.



I AM SO
SORRY
ABOUT
SOCKING
YOU LIKE
THAT!
ARE YOU
OKAY?!

I'M
SORRY!!



HA-HA!
HAHAHAHA!

I DON'T
KNOW HOW
MUCH ÔTANI
LOVES ME,
OR WHAT HE
SEES IN ME
IN THE FIRST
PLACE...



HUH?

...BUT
THERE'S
ONE THING
I KNOW
FOR SURE.
NOBODY
IN THE
WORLD...



...LOVES
HIM AS
MUCH AS
I DO. SO
THERE!



《...to be continued》

love★com

SPECIAL ISSUE

CHOCK-FULL OF FUN &
EXCITING FEATURES!!

●Cover art:
Aya Nakahara
Special
price: ¥0

The
Mighty
Girls:
What do
they do?
We'll
tell you!
Also...
Wanted:
New
members!

Remedial
Love★Com
101!
Compre-
hension
guaranteed,
or your
money
back!!

HOW SERIOUS A FAN ARE YOU? FIND OUT WITH...

**THE LOVE★COM
DETAILS TEST**

DON'T MISS THE AWESOME BONUS SERIES:

OSAKA FIGHTERS
**THE LOVE★COM
RANGERS!**

LOVE IT OR HATE IT, IT'S A...
SPECIAL EPISODE

OSAKA FIGHTERS THE LOVE★COM RANGERS!



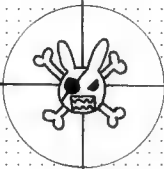
The
Love
Com
All-
Stars in
Another
Guise?!

Episode 21
"Kong Joins the Dark Side?!
The Hidden Code in the Mid-Term Exams"

By Supreme Commander
of the Osaka Fighter Brigade

Aya Nakahara

DA-
DOOT



KLIK

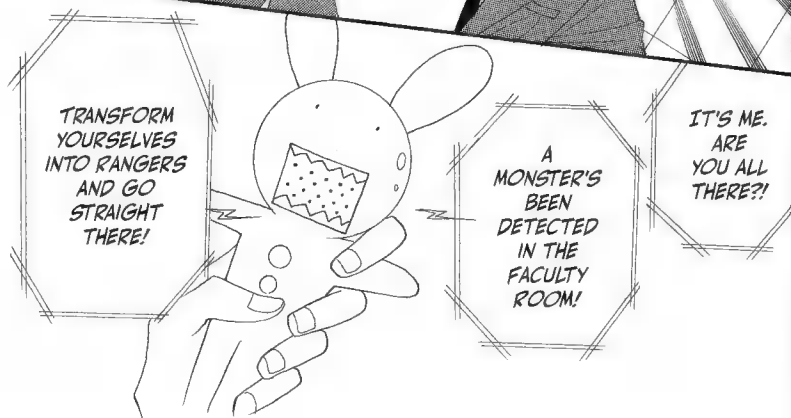
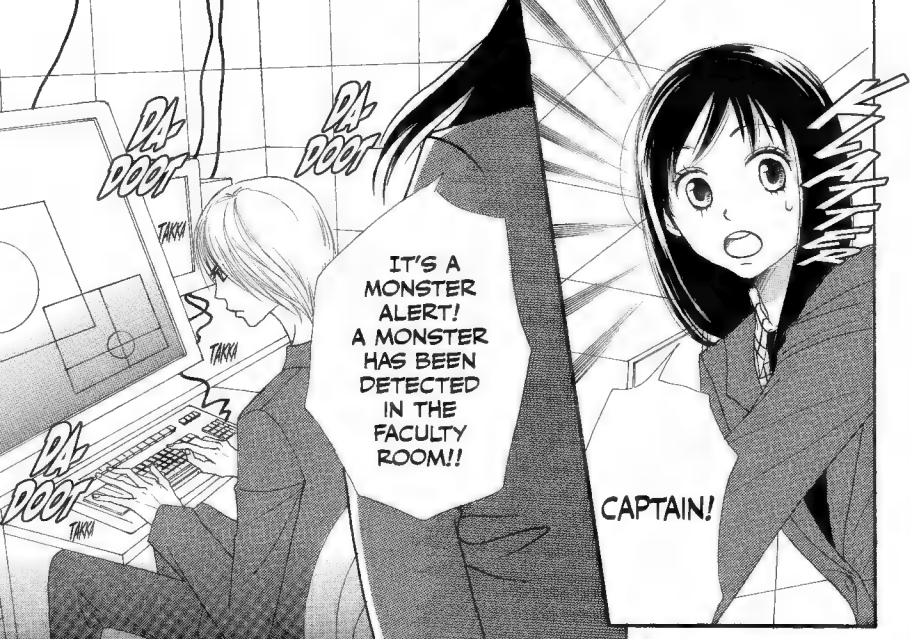
KLIK

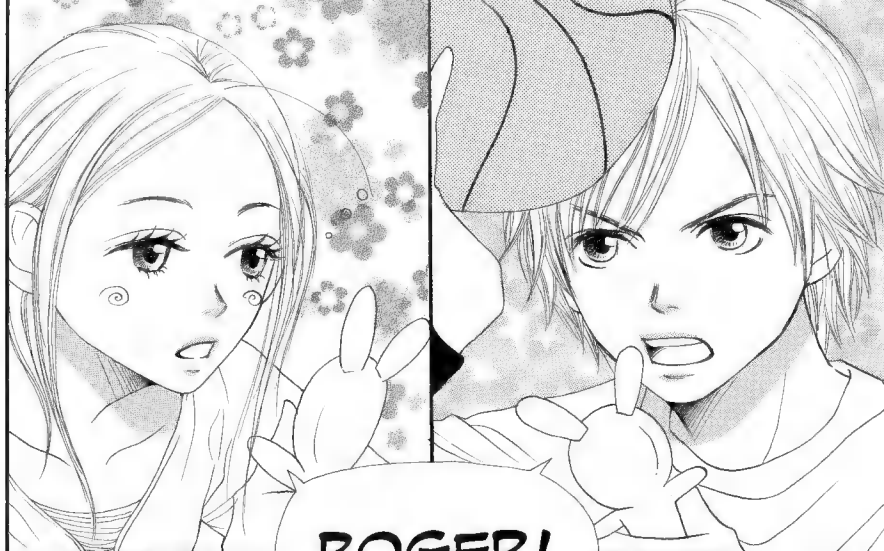
KLIK

KLIK

KLIK

KLIK





ROGER!



Ohhh!
Where
are you
going?



TRANS...

...FORM!!

PWOOOO

OOOF

THE LOVE-COM RANGERS!!

FACULTY
ROOM

SENPAI,
LOOK!
OVER
THERE!!

OMIGOD!

WHERE'S
THE
MONSTER
?!

WHAM

PHLAP

KONG!!

YOU
WON'T
MAKE
HEADS
OR TAILS
OF IT
UNLESS
YOU
REALLY
STUDY!

MWAHA-
HAHAHA-
HAHA!
I'M
MAKING
THIS THE
HARDEST
TEST YOU
GUYS
EVER
SAW!

THE
USABA-
RASHI
LEAGUE
HAS GOT
TO BE
BEHIND
THIS!!

KONG'S
FALLEN
INTO
THEIR
CLUTCHES

You !!
saw the
symbol on his
forehead?

OF ALL
THE LOW
THINGS...!!
HOW
DARE HE
DO THIS
TO US?!

HOLY
MOLY!!
LOOK
AT THIS!!

THESE
QUESTIONS
ARE
TOTALLY
HARD!!

I can't even tell what
they're about!!

MMH
MMH
MMH
MMH
MMH.

MIGHTY...
THE
SUPREME
COMMANDER
OF THE
USABARASHI
LEAGUE!!

WELL,
WE'RE
NOT
LETTING
HIM GET
AWAY
WITH
THIS!!

NOT SO
FAST, MY
FRIENDS.



YOU THREE
THERE ARE
ALL SENIORS,
AND YET ALL
YOU DO IS
GOOF OFF
AND HAVE FUN
EVERY DAY,
DO YOU NOT?

AND NONE
OF YOU EVEN
HOLDS DOWN
A PART-TIME
JOB, YET YOU
ALL SEEM TO
HAVE QUITE
EXTENSIVE
WARDROBES.

I DON'T
THINK I'VE
EVER SEEN
ANY OF YOU
STUDYING
THIS YEAR.
DO YOU THINK
YOU'LL BE
ABLE TO
GRADUATE AT
THIS RATE?

ARGH
...!

W O R G H !!

G Y A A A A G H !!

F W I K

F W I K



WHAT'S
THE
MATTER
WITH YOU?
YOU HAVE
TO FIGHT
BACK!!

S E N P A I S !!

THAT WAS
BELOW
THE BELT,
MIGHTY!!

That's
right,
Mighty,
those
subjects
are taboo
and you
know
it...

S H O O O

OWWWW,
THAT
HURT.

MMH
MMH
MMH
MMH



NOW,
MISTER
KONG!!

FINISH
THEM
OFF!!



SENPAIS!
DON'T
TELL ME
YOU'RE
GIVING
UP JUST
LIKE
THAT?!

NONE OF
YOU IS
GETTING
INTO
COLLEGE,
THAT'S
FOR SURE!

COME ON!
WE'RE THE
LOVE ☆ COM
RANGERS!
WE FIGHT
FOR LOVE
AND
JUSTICE!!



I'LL
SEE
TO IT
YOU'LL
HAVE
YOUR
HANDS
FULL
JUST
TRYING
TO
GRADU-
ATE!





COME
ON,
GUYS,
LET'S
GO!!

AND WE
WILL!!
BECAUSE
THAT'S
WHAT
WE'RE
HERE
FOR!!

WE
GOTTA
FIGHT!!

THAT'S
RIGHT,
WE
CAN'T
JUST
GIVE
UP!!



KICK
HER OUT
INTO THE
HALL,
SOME-
BODY.

DOWN
WITH
KONG!!

THOK

FON

★ A punch line reminiscent of Risa's notorious
"Not my Summon Monsters too!"?!

Comprehension guaranteed, or your money back!

REMEDIAL LOVE★COM 101 THE REAL BASICS

Today's class is about a story that takes place in Osaka and features a tall-and-short comedy team.

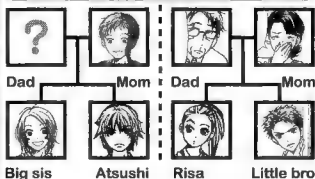
YOU'LL
BE
TESTED
ON
THIS AT
THE END.
DON'T
SAY I
DIDN'T
WARN
YOU.



Which of them is
a better student?

	Ōtani	Risa
1st year:	Failed both mid-terms and finals	Got D minus on both mid-terms and finals
2nd year:	Both avoid having to attend remedial summer school	
3rd year:	Both ordered by Kong to attend remedial summer school.	
	Test score: 6/50	Test score: 4/50
<p>CONCLUSION: THEY'RE BOTH TERRIBLE STUDENTS</p>		

What are their
families like?



Ōtani's dad hasn't made an appearance in the story yet. Does that bother you?

Why're they called
All Hanshin-Kyojin
in the first place?

① The big difference in their heights

1st year 5'1"

2nd year 5'1.25"

1st year 5'7"

2nd year 5'8"

Ōtani

Risa

Name means "big valley," but he's very little. Also very dense when it comes to romance.

A jumbo-gal. Basically a funny girl, with almost zero sex appeal?!

② Their constant squabbling

The perfect timing with which they trade insults is professional comedian-class. Both reasons are shared by the Yoshimoto manzai team All Hanshin-Kyojin.



③ Because Kong, their teacher, gave them the moniker.

④ And the whole class wholeheartedly agreed.



VOTED
CLASS
REPRESENTATIVES
FOR THREE
YEARS IN
A ROW!

This is why they're called "All Hanshin-Kyojin!"

The
Basics
#1

Get
all the
facts on
Risa and
Ōtani!

Risa
Koizumi
and
Atsushi
Ōtani are
the main
characters
of this
story!! ...
But that
much you
do know,
don't you?

The Basics

The Basics #2

Let's sort out the various relationships in Risa and Ōtani's lives!

Love★Com has crazy characters popping up one after the other. Can you say all of their names (first and last) off the top of your head?

Known as **Mighty**. A dreamboat whose tender murmurs charm school-girls' hearts.



Home-room co-teacher

A super-cute boy. Watch out when s/he gets turned on!



Baking Club

Cousins



A quarter English, three-quarters Japanese. Wimpy childhood friend of Risa's who hero-worships her.



CAIN OSUGI
Game character who is Risa's ideal guy

Irritating

Umibōzu

Rapper

Huge fan



Ex-girlfriend

Otani's next-door neighbor. The same height as Risa, she's a model. Scary!



Friends from middle school



Basketball team



Manager of Ōtani's middle school basketball team. Has a boyfriend.



Slightly bossy & practical Mom type. Always very lovey-dovey with her honey, Nakao.



Ōtani's best friend since middle school. Kind of a doofus. Loves to do cosplay.



Brainy, with best grades in class. Shy and sweet.



Tall, quiet, and cool-looking...but actually very shy and nervous.

KEY

—❤— IN LOVE

- - -❤- - - CRUSH

—☀— RIVAL

YOU GOT THAT? OKAY, SO LET'S MOVE ON TO HISTORY NEXT.



1

3

Vol.

Year

Time

First

Second term

Summer vacation

First term

★ Risa gets a crush on Suzuki and Ōtani gets one on Chiharu. The two join forces to get the love they want!!

● Operation Pool Date: Suzuki and Chiharu start liking each other.

● Operation Summer Festival: Risa and Ōtani give up on their crushes.

■ The rumor goes around that Risa and Ōtani are a couple.

■ They change strategies, and decide to help Suzuki and Chiharu get together.

● Operation Movie Date: Suzuki and Chiharu get together.

■ Risa and Ōtani make a bet over who gets together with someone first: Their alliance is dissolved.

■ The prophecy of 100% compatibility: Risa & Ōtani discover they are both huge Umibōzu fans.

■ Risa and Ōtani go to a karaoke party and almost restart hostilities. Crisis is averted by their Umibōzu duet (*1)

■ Agreement to go to Umibōzu show together.



Ooh...
Risa falls
in love
with
Suzuki
at first
sight.



Suzuki
and
Chiharu
show up
together

※1 The Umibōzu peace dividend

Umibōzu's songs put both Risa and Ōtani in a good mood.

Rocking beat

Super-cool voice

Act as brain stimulants!

Quarrel is forgotten



Alliance

War

The Summer School Campaign

● Risa & Ōtani's first meeting on first day of school
→ They hate each other.

● Risa & Ōtani are elected class reps as "All Hanshin-Kyojin."

● Risa sleeps through end-of-term ceremony and gets sent to summer school as a penalty.

Comedy
teams
are
cats-
and-
dogs



YOU ARE
NEVER
GONNA
FIND A
BOYFRIEND

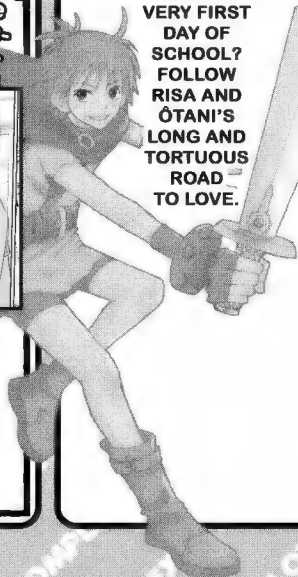
FIRST
PERIOD
HISTORY



BE READY TO
GET QUIZZED
AT ANY TIME!

THE
LOVE★COM
WORLD
HISTORY
THREE-
YEAR
TIMELINE

AT EACH
OTHER'S
THROATS
FROM THE
VERY FIRST
DAY OF
SCHOOL?
FOLLOW
RISA AND
ŌTANI'S
LONG AND
TORTUOUS
ROAD
TO LOVE.



First period: History

3

2

Second

First

First term

Spring
vacation

Third term

Winter
vacation

Second term

★ Risa & Ōtani are in same class for second year in a row. Alluring new student Seiko falls for Ōtani, and hard!

■ Seiko gives Ōtani a very public kiss: Risa is deeply perturbed.

■ Seiko turns out to be a boy: Ōtani dies of shock.

● Seiko decides to keep trying: Tells Risa they're rivals.

■ Risa becomes sure she's in love with Ōtani!!

The Seiko Attack

★ Risa's childhood friend Haruka arrives and moves in on Risa!!

● Haruka declares war on Ōtani.

■ Ōtani refuses Risa's "just friends" Valentine

● Haruka asks Risa to be his girlfriend: She refuses.

● Attack of the yakuza dog: Haruka begs. Ōtani for help, takes back declaration of war. Risa starts to fall for Ōtani?!

The Haruka Invasion

★ Risa is shocked to find out that Ōtani had a girlfriend before!

● Ex-girlfriend sends message to Ōtani: Ōtani's heart is recaptured?

■ The Umibōzu Christmas concert: Risa's heart is captured by Ōtani?!

● New Year's shrine visit: Risa thinks Ōtani's ex wants to get back together with him. This later turns out to be a big misunderstanding.

The Ōtani Ex-Girlfriend Incident

Seiko's pheromones go bonkers!



Ōtani as "captured space alien"



Haruka's crazy about Risa!



His ex looks just like Chiharu!



Ōtani chooses Risa over his ex and...?

The Age of the Little Man

Conflict

★ Using sexiness (?) as her weapon, Risa tries to turn the tide!

■ Confinement in storage closet incident: Although this is how Ōtani and Mayu got together, nothing happens when it's Risa.

■ New Year's Eve karaoke night: Risa and Ōtani have a great time, but then Mayu breaks up with her boyfriend!

■ Junior high basketball reunion crisis: Guys try to get Ōtani and Mayu back together, but fail.

■ Re-emergence of Haruka: Exposes Ōtani's rejection of Risa to the whole class.

■ The Valentine's Day confrontation: Ōtani refuses Risa's "for real" Valentine, but she forces it on him anyway.

■ The visit to Ōtani's home on his birthday → Risa meets Ōtani's mom → Risa moves in on Ōtani → Ōtani gives Risa her first kiss ever!

■ The Umibōzu show tragedy: Ōtani doesn't remember the kiss. Risa is outraged.

The Flaunting of Inner Boobies Period

★ Risa initiates her attack!!

■ The Cafeteria Conference: Nobu becomes Risa's prime minister (*2) and enlists the support of Nakao, Suzuki and Chiharu.

■ The Battle of the Beach: Washout

■ The Fireworks Showdown (Risa's birthday): Dud. (*3)

■ Risa Spooks Ōtani at School Festival: Message gets through.

■ Class trip to Hokkaido / Bear Curry Incident: Risa takes heavy losses.

■ Umibōzu family surfaces in Hakodate: Risa is inspired!

The Long Confession of Love Campaign

EVENTS

Haruka vents his spleen at Ōtani's treatment of Risa!



Gazing up at the night sky, Risa vows to keep fighting!



The tears she'd been holding back spill over...



Did he kiss her because he was feverish?

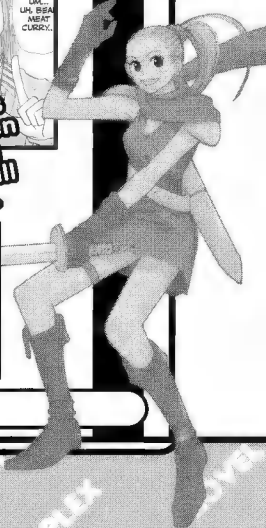








*2 The Machinations of Prime Minister Nobu

Controlling Risa from the shadows, Nobu engineers her confession of love with such speed and skill that Ōtani remains completely unaware of her diplomacy...



Risa's Era of Great Striving



8	7	6
Third		
Second term	Summer vacation	First term
<p>★ Ōtani's neighbor Mimi throws down the gauntlet!!</p> <p>■ Mimi declares love for Ōtani: Fiasco causes her to erupt at Risa.</p> <p>● The Amusement Center Battle: Ōtani tries to give Mimi an answer.</p> <p>■ Mimi's Tantrum Attack → Risa retaliates with Meat-head Punch → Mimi defeated.</p>	<p>The Mimi Onslaught: A Beautiful Rival Attacks!</p> <p>★ Ōtani comes close to slaying Risa by telling her he needs her to be around him all the time, but she is asleep and doesn't hear. The attempt is a failure.</p> <p>■ Fireworks Festival (Risa's birthday): Ōtani kisses her.</p> <p>■ The Incident of the Introduction: Risa introduces Ōtani ■ a friend to her old classmate, setting off hostilities.</p> <p>■ The Pavement Declarations: Risa and Ōtani become a couple!</p> <p>■ First Date: Risa tugs at Ōtani's heartstrings!!</p>	<p>The Ōtani Emotional Overthrow</p> <p>★ Risa & Ōtani in class for third year running. New homeroom co-teacher Might sets Risa's heart racing!</p> <p>■ The kiss that wasn't a kiss: Risa finds out Ōtani was trying to pick a rice grain out of her hair. She kisses him, sees no reaction, and vows she will quit loving him.</p> <p>■ Risa starts the Mighty Girls → Nobu blames Ōtani → Ōtani is furious.</p> <p>■ Ōtani declares Risa means nothing to him: Risa loses fighting spirit.</p> <p>● Mighty casts ■ magical spell: Ōtani suddenly jealous?!</p> <p>● Ōtani injured in basketball contest with Mighty: Names Risa his chauffeur.</p> <p>■ Ōtani tells Risa not to quit loving him: The Mighty Girls are disbanded.</p> <p>The Ōtani vs. Mighty Wars</p>
<p>Flanked by two tall beauties?</p> 	<p>A secret kiss behind everyone's backs!</p> 	<p>The power of Mighty Magic?</p>  <p>Mighty is exactly like Cain!</p> 
<p>The "Learners Permit"</p>	<p>※3-4 Fireworks and Romance</p> <p>Their second year, Risa tells Ōtani she loves him. Their third year, Ōtani kisses Risa. Do fireworks, with their beauty, noise and nighttime nature, abet romance?!</p> 	<p>The Bambi Era</p> 



Mammals

• Animal 1 •

« Cat »

MEOWWW ♥

A mammal of the genus *Felis*. Size about 24 inches in length. The expression, "to pussyfoot around," means to move stealthily or to act cautiously. This, however, is something Risa cannot do!



IS NOBU-CHAN A SEX KITTEN?!

EXPRESSIVE GIRLS ARE SO VIVID AND LIVELY!

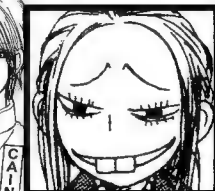
In high spirits

I THINK THEY'RE REALLY CHARMING.



WOW, SHE'S KINDA WOUND UP.

I CAN HARDLY BREATHE WHEN YOU LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT.



WHO WOULD LOOK AT THIS AND EVER GUESS THAT THIS GIRL IS THE MAIN CHARACTER IN A SHOJO MANGA?

SECOND PERIOD BIOLOGY



See these once, they'll haunt your dreams...?

Illustrated diagram of Risa's many faces

Risa's expression is constantly changing to reflect how she feels. Here her various faces are analyzed in biological (?) terms!



● Animal 2 ●

《 Fish 》

Any aquatic creature with gills, fins and scales. When Risa makes ■ fish eye, her lids are 80% closed and yet she still manages to send out a sharp, piercing and decidedly baleful stare.²



Fish



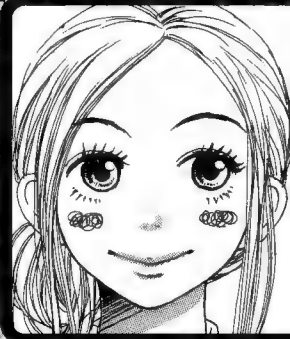
The fish eye



Animal

SHE CHANGES THIS MUCH, SHE'S A CHAMELEON.

In low spirits



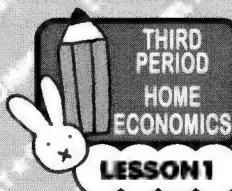
IS THIS EDWARD MUNCH'S "THE SCREAM"?



K Y A A A A A !!

Monster

²information gathered from the Shueisha Dictionary



The drinks that make (some) people swoon with rapture!!

Tropical "Dancer" Recipes

Top-secret formulas leaked by disgruntled kitchen staff!



What is a "Dancer"?

Tropical "Dancer" drinks are featured on the menu at Café Ikebe, the coffee shop where Risa and Ōtani always go. Their exotic names and interesting consistency have made them the talk of the town (?).



Miss Sakagami, Waitress

The "Dancer" series of drinks has been really popular ever since we introduced it. We come up with a new variation every season, so we hope you'll enjoy all of them!

Directions

- 1) Wash the orange thoroughly, then cut in half horizontally, make one slice to keep for decoration, and squeeze the rest.
- 2) Pour the fresh-squeezed orange juice into a shaker together with the guava and lychee juices, and shake well.
- 3) Pour the juice into a tall glass with lots of ice in it.
- 4) Top up with soda, and give a quick stir.
- 5) Decorate with the slice of orange.



Ingredients
(for one serving)

- 1/2 cup guava juice
- 1/2 cup lychee juice
- 1/2 cup lemon-lime soda
- 1 orange



A Little Tip!

To buy tropical juices, go to a liquor store!

Large discount liquor stores stock lots of imported fruit juices, also chocolates and other sweets!

LIGHT AND REFRESHING!

Recipe 1

One sip, and you're transported to the islands of King Kamehameha!

HAWAIIAN DANCER

DIFFICULTY



Now it's your turn to try! Here's how you make the two tropical "Dancers" Risa and Ōtani had!!

IT IS? I NEVER NOTICED THAT ON YOU.



IT'S FULL OF VITAMINS, AND IS REALLY GOOD FOR YOUR COMPLEXION.

Directions

- 1) Peel the mango and remove the pulp from the seed with a knife. Or, don't peel it and slice along the seed, then use a spoon to scoop out the pulp.
- 2) Remove the nata de coco from its syrup and reserve the syrup.
- 3) Place the mango pulp, pineapple juice, coconut milk, milk and reserved syrup in a blender, and switch on!
- 4) When the ingredients have become smoothly blended, pour the mixture into a well-chilled glass.
- 5) Add the nata de coco and mix lightly.
- 6) Decorate with the pineapple slice, and serve!



A Little Tip!

It's also super-yum with banana!!!

If you can't find ripe mangoes, try using ■ banana instead. It's really good, too. ☆ Since bananas turn brown quickly, sprinkle it with lemon juice as soon as you peel it, and then put it in the blender.

Ingredients

(for one serving)

- 1 mango
- 1/2 cup pineapple juice
- 1/2 cup coconut milk
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1/2 cup nata de coco (coconut jelly)
- 1 pineapple slice

RICH AND TASTY!

Recipe
2

Close your eyes, and let the South Sea waves wash gently over you!

POLYNESIAN DANCER

DIFFICULTY
★★

SO DELICIOUS IT MAKES YOU BURST INTO SONG!!

Have your recipe featured on the menu!
Wanted: Original "Dancer" Recipes!!

Café Ikebe is looking for exciting new drinks to feature on its menu as part of its "Dancer" series! Unique recipes that stimulate all five senses, baffling taste explosions, challenging new ideas—all are welcome! We look forward to receiving your recipes!

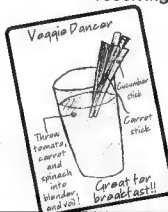
How to enter:

- Write your 1) name
- 2) address 3) phone number 4) age
- 5) occupation and
- 6) original "Dancer" recipe (illustrations very welcome!) on a postcard, and send to the address below. The recipe selected for the Grand Prix by the judging panel will be featured in the Café Ikebe menu.

Love Com "Dancer"
Recipe Contest
c/o Shōjo Beat Magazine
295 Bay St
San Francisco,
CA 94133

We look forward to trying out your exciting ideas!

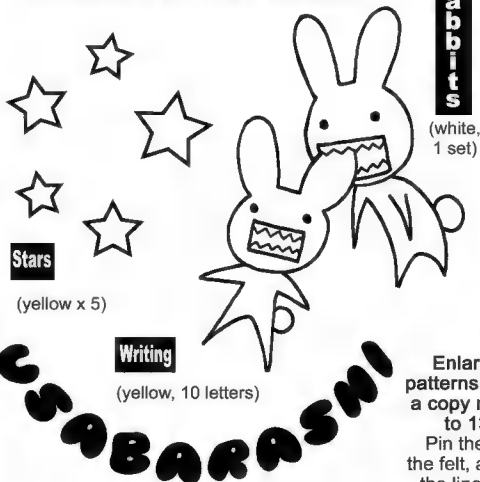
Café Ikebe



In conjunction with Café Ikebe...

WHAT "DANCER" FAN COULD RESIST???

<Patterns for iron-on felt>



1 Cut out the pattern

Enlarge the patterns at left on a copy machine, to 130%.

Pin them onto the felt, and follow the lines to cut. Iron the white and yellow pieces onto the red pieces.

<Pattern for purse>

Cut two pieces like this out of the red felt.
(Diameter should be about 3.5 inches)

USE A SEWING MARKER OR CHALK TO DRAW A LINE AROUND 1/4 INCH INSIDE THE EDGE OF BOTH PIECES.

LESSON2

Felt

Easy to make, and super-cute

Usabarashi Coin Purse

Let's make the same coin purse that *Fisa* lost and Umibôzu found in Hokkaido! Use the pattern at left, but first enlarge it by 130% on a copy machine.



Pattern included (enlarge by 130%)

What you'll need:

- 1 piece of red felt (6 inches square)
- 1 piece of white iron-on felt (7 inches square)
- 1 piece of yellow iron-on felt (7 inches square)
- 1 zipper (4 inches long)
- 1 skein each 6-strand embroidery thread* in red, yellow, and black
- Embroidery needle
- Pins
- Sewing marker or chalk
- *Divide each skein of 6-strand thread in half, and sew using 3 strands.



Use the backstitch to go all around the circle of red felt, along the line you drew in Step 1. Do this on both pieces of felt, using yellow thread.

<The rabbits' eyes>

Using black thread, bring the needle out from the backside of the felt to the front, tie a knot, and then bring the needle through to the backside again.

<Outlining the rabbits' mouths and teeth>

Use black thread to outline the mouths and teeth with the backstitch.

<Inside the mouths>

Use the red thread and the satin stitch for the inside of the rabbits' mouths.

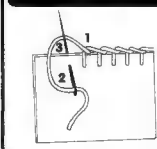
<The right-hand rabbit's left arm>
Outline the left arm in black thread, using the backstitch.

2

Embroider the design

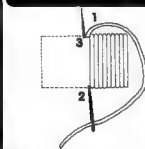
Embroider the rabbits you ironed on in Step 1, following the instructions at left.

3) The Blanket Stitch



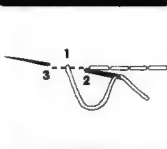
Place two pieces of fabric together. Bring the needle through from the front to the back, then pass it through the loop created and pull tight. Repeat.

2) The Satin Stitch



Place each stitch right next to the one before it to fill in space. Make sure you don't leave any spaces between stitches!

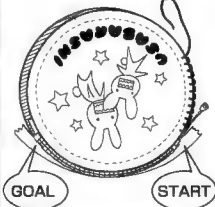
1) The Backstitch



Bring the needle out a 2-stitch length from where the last stitch was inserted, go back 1 stitch, and repeat.

Basic embroidery stitches

FOR THE 1/2 INCH OR SO AT THE START AND GOAL SECTIONS, DOUBLE BACK ONCE AND THEN GO FORWARD AGAIN SO THE STITCHES ARE TRIPLE STRONG.



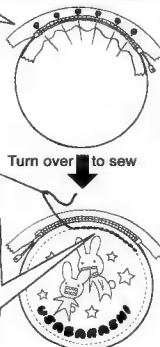
Place the two pieces of red felt together and close the zipper. Then go all around the rest of the rim using the closing stitch.

4

Sew the two sides together

USE ENOUGH PINS!!

TRY TO OVERLAP THE STITCHES YOU MADE EARLIER, AROUND THE RIM.



Pin half of the zipper onto the backside of the decorated piece of red felt, then sew it on with yellow thread, using the backstitch. Then pin the other half of the zipper onto the backside of the other piece of red felt and sew it on the same way. Make sure the zipper halves are facing the right way to zip up later!

5

Attach the zipper

How serious a fan are you? Find out with...

The Love★Com Details Test

Put away your Love Com graphic novels, and go!

HMMM...
EVEN I'M
HAVING
TROUBLE
ANSWER-
ING
THESE.



**Beginners'
Level**

★ Choose the correct answer. (1 point per question)

4 What is Seiko's given name?



- 1) Seinosuke Kotobuki
- 2) Sei-ichirō Kotobuki
- 3) Seishirō Kotobuki

1 What is the current difference in Risa and Ōtani's heights?



- 1) 5 11/16 inches
- 2) 6 1/2 inches
- 3) 6 11/16 inches

5 What did Risa give Ōtani for Christmas their second year of high school?



- 1) Gloves
- 2) Wristband
- 3) Ticket to Umibōzu show

2 What did Ōtani compare Risa to on the class trip to Hokkaido?



- 1) Pickled sour plum
- 2) Pickled radish
- 3) Pickled onion

6 Where did Risa and Ōtani go on their first date after becoming a couple?



- 1) The beach
- 2) Karaoke
- 3) Game center

3 Who was the black-suited assistant in the Basketball Team's skit?



- 1) Nakao
- 2) Giant Baba
- 3) Suzuki

Intermediate
Level

★ Fill in the blanks. (3 points per question)

- 1 Risa's birthday is on _____.
- 2 Risa's homeroom teacher is Mr. _____, more commonly known as _____.
The subject he teaches is _____.
- 3 Mighty's real name is _____. He is _____ years old.
- 4 The title of the dirty video Nakao had hidden in his room was _____.
- 5 _____ is the phrase Risa uses for shocks too big to say "Omigod."
- 6 Haruka is one-fourth _____.
- 7 Cain is a character in a game called _____. His last name is _____.
- 8 Cain has _____ and café au lait for breakfast.
- 9 Hawaiian Dancer is on the menu of Café _____.
- 10 Their first year in school, Risa made Ôtani a Valentine's Day cake that said _____ on it.
- 11 At the School Festival their second year, Nakao dressed up as _____.
- 12 When Ôtani got sick with a fever, Risa brought him _____ when she went over to his house.
- 13 The color of the coin purse Risa dropped in Hokkaido was _____.
- 14 Ôtani is called _____ by his family.
- 15 For Ôtani's last basketball game, Risa made him lemons pickled in _____.
- 16 Risa called the dog pictured at right a _____ dog.



★ Choose the correct silhouette. (2 points)

- 17 Which of these is Umibôzu's signature hand signal?



Advanced Level

★ Are the following statements true or false? Write T or F in the parentheses. (2 points)

- 1 Risa, Nobu and Chiharu all went to the same middle school.
- 2 Risa and Ôtani were in the same class for all three years of high school, and in Year 1 this was Class 2 and in Year 2 this was Class 4.
- 3 Both Nobu and Nakao have blood type B.
- 4 Haruka moved away in 4th grade.
- 5 According to the "Love Fortune" machine, Risa and Haruka are 38% compatible.
- 6 Mayu Kanzaki goes to Sakura Girls' School.
- 7 Ôtani was supplanted by Yamamoto as the basketball team's idol.
- 8 One of Umibôzu's CDs is called *Bozo*.

★ Choose the correct answer. (2 points per question)

- 11 How many ear piercings does Haruka have?



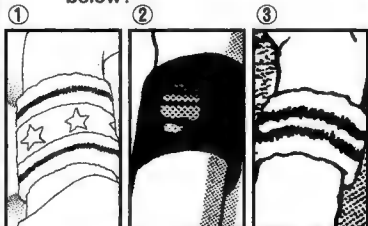
- 1) One in his right ear, two in his left ear.
- 2) Two in his right ear, one in his left ear.
- 3) Two in each ear.

- 9 What was the name of the beach Risa and the gang went to the summer of their second year?

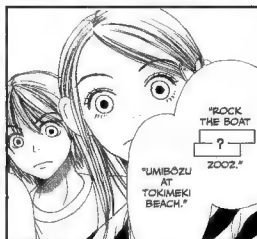


- 1) Wakuwaku Beach
- 2) Tokimeki Beach
- 3) Tropical Beach

- 12 The wristband worn by Risa on the day before summer vacation her first year was which one below?













- 10 The show that was held at the beach that day was called "Rock the Boat and ???."



- 1) Roll with the Punches
- 2) Make Some Waves
- 3) Fall Over-board

★Draw connecting lines between the two rows. (6 points)

13 Who went home with who at the end of that karaoke night?

A	B	C	D	E
				
				
F	G	H	I	J

★Find 7 differences between the two pictures at right. (2 points)

14

YOU'LL FIND ALL
THE ANSWERS
AT THE BACK!



UGH! WHAT THE
HECK IS THIS?!

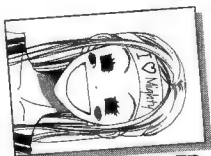
Welcome! We're the Mighty Girls

MATTY ♥

After-School
Activities
MATTY +

Main Activities

The Mighty Girls are here to cheer on our adored Mighty at all times, but in addition to that, we hold all kinds of special events! Teamwork is so important for cheering, and we practice really hard to make sure we're all together—because seeing Mighty smile when we're all in sync is sooo worth it! It's really easy to become a member: all you have to do is be crazy about Mighty!



Club President Risa Koizumi

Hi! We're a brand-new club so there's no hierarchy. We're all equals in our love for Mighty! So feel free to join us!

Meeting Places

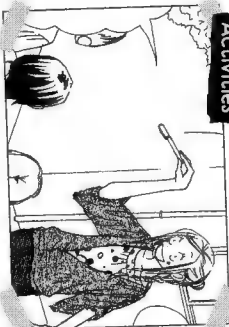
Gymnasium (cheering)
Back courtyard (vocal exercises)
Audiovisual room (I-love-Mighty counseling)

Meeting Times

Mon-Fri after school at 3:30

Club Activities

We start each session with vocal exercises!



Club Activities

A Q&A session with the gorgeous man himself!



OUR
SHINING
PRINCE
MR.
KUNIOMI
MAITAKE

PROFILE

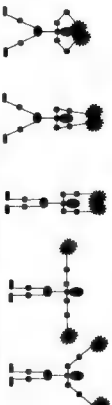
English teacher who is homeroom co-teacher for Risa's third-year class. Age 24. A Tokyoite who's new to Osaka. A real heartbreaker who made all the Mighty Girls cry—when they found out he has a fiancée! ♥

The Mighty Cheer

WITH THE MOVES!

JAPANESE SPELLING OF "MIGHTY"

M • A • I • T • Y



HE'S MIGHTY!

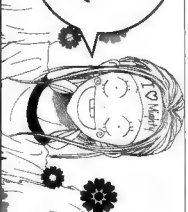
HE'S FINE!

HE'S MIGHTY FINE!



Rotate arms → Bend knees → Jump up

SHOUT THIS CHEER
OUT AT THE TOP
OF YOUR LUNGS!
IT'S SO ENERGIZING,
YOU'LL FORGET ALL
YOUR PROBLEMS!



A Hymn to Lord Mighty the Great

Lyrics: Risa Koizumi

O Mighty your majesty
Of thee I sing

O Mighty, you rule
You are the king

Oh Mighty,
Lord Mighty

We're here to serve
Lord Mighty

Oh Mighty,
Lord Mighty

Your magical
kingdom of love

M-I-G-H-T-and-Y
You're Mighty,
you're fine

We love you cuz
you're divine!



SING THIS WHILE
CLASPING YOUR
HANDS TIGHTLY
TOGETHER.

You too
will fall for
many's
charms!!



POMPOMS

Make these before you join! Wrap the pompom tape around the length of Bessatsu Margaret (or a phonebook, if Bessatsu Margaret is not available) about 100 times, then slip off and the very tight around the middle. Cut the loops at both ends with scissors, then comb out to make them all fluffy! Repeat this process so you have two pompons.

What you'll need: 2 rolls Pompom tape 1 issue Bessatsu Margaret Scissors Wide-tooth comb

The Mighty Girls

↑ You too will fall for Mighty's menu charms!

NAME:

BIRTH:

BLOOD TYPE:

Paste
photo
here

As a Mighty Girl, I pledge
to try and live an elegant life-
style, and to love and adore
Mighty forever and ever!

Since May 13, 2004

Membership #: mightygirl2004

Date joined:

All members get this
special membership card!

If you want to join, contact
Risa Koizumi (3rd year)!!

<Beginners' Level> Q1: 3 Q2: 2 Q3: 1 Q4: 3 Q5: 1 Q6: 3

<Intermediate Level>

Q1: August 3rd

Q2: Nakano / Kong / Math

Q3: Kuniumi Maitake / 24

Q4: Titanic

Q5: Oh my gourd

Q6: English

Q7: Lovey-dovey Fantasia 2 / Osugi

Q8: Croissants

Q9: Ikebe

Q10: Just Friends

Q11: Rat Man

Q12: Tangerines

Q13: Red

Q14: Atchan

Q15: Cooking sherry

Q16: Yakuza

Q17: 3

<Advanced Level>

Q1: F (Risa and Chiharu did, but Risa only met Nobu on the first day of high school.)

Q2: F (They were in Class 3 their second year.)

Q3: T (Risa has O and Otani has A.)

Q4: F (He moved away in 5th grade.)

Q5: T (Chiharu and Suzuki's score was 18%.)

Q6: T (Sakura Girls' School students are supposed to be really smart.)

Q7: T (At first, Otani thought this was the guy Risa had a crush on.)

Q8: T (The others are Fish in Hell and Seasick.)

Q9: 2 Q10: 2 Q11: 1 Q12: 2

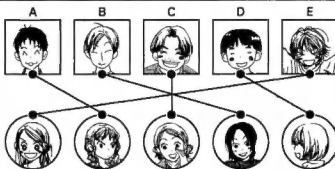
Q13: A-G, B-I, C-H, D-J, E-F

Q14: 1) Umibōzu 2) Crab 3) Nakao's wristband 4) The fish's mouth

5) Nobu's teeth 6) Suzuki's ribbon 7) Chiharu's swimsuit

The Answers to the Love Com Details Test

What did you
think of the test?
Was it a piece
of cake? Super-
hard? Now let's
find out how
you all did!!

43
points...OH MY
GOURD...
I'M
HOPE-
LESS...THAT'S
BETTER
THAN
YOUR
MATH
SCORE.

MIGHTY



Would you like to be charmed by me, my lady?



Pinup of Mighty,
Magician of Love.
For luck in romance!







This happened right around the time Volume 7 [Japanese version] was released, so I couldn't tell you then, and now the timing's way off, but *Love★Com* has won a prestigious award called the Shogakukan Manga Award! This is all thanks to your warm support. Thank you all so much. I got really flustered and went to the ceremony flustered and came home flustered. I'll continue to work hard, flustered all the while, from now on.

Aya Nakahara won the 2003 Shogakukan manga award for her breakthrough hit *Love★Com*, which was made into a major motion picture and a PS2 game in 2006. She debuted with *Haru to Kuuki Nichiyou-bi* in 1995, and her other works include *HANADA* and *Himitsu Kichi*.

LOVE★COM VOL 8

The Shoyo Beat Manga Edition



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